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# HISTORY OF TEXAS

TOGETHER WITH A

## BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

— OF —

# Milam, Williamson, Bastrop, Travis, Lee Burleson Counties.

Containing a Concise History of the State, with Portraits and Biographies of  
Prominent Citizens of the above named Counties, and Personal Histories  
of Many of the Early Settlers and Leading Families.

*"Biography is the only true history."--Emerson.*

**Pt. 2**

CHICAGO

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At the age of sixteen, he began to look about him for a vocation in which to carve out his own fortune, and as his father and grandfather before him had been successful in mercantile pursuits, he concluded to follow in their illustrious footsteps. Accordingly, in order to gain a practical knowledge of that line, he entered the employ of E. Belo, prosperous merchant of Salem, North Carolina, where he was for number of years associated with his employer's son, A. H. Belo, who is well known to all Texans as the present publisher of the Galveston and Dallas News. Mr. Bitting continued to be thus occupied until the breaking out of the civil war, at which time there was a great demand for all patriotic men to defend the South and her time-honored institutions.

Although but a lad of eighteen years, Mr. Bitting had developed, under the excitement of the times, into mature manhood, and with all the devotion of his nature offered his services and life, if necessary, to the defense of his beloved home. He enlisted in Company K of the Forty-eighth North Carolina Infantry, his regiment being a part of General A. P. Hill's corps and joined to the Virginia army. He participated in the historic seven days' fight in front of Richmond and received, on the third day of the battle, a severe wound in the left breast, which nearly cost him his life, the ball passing through his body under his arm and coming out at his back. He suffered from this wound for three months, when he rejoined his regiment at Winchester, Virginia, and took part in the battles of Rappahannock and the Wilderness. The command was then sent to protect the coast of the Carolinas, but returned in time to take part in the battle of Fredericksburg, also the fight which followed the mine explosion near Petersburg, Virginia. Mr.

Bitting was promoted as Second Lieutenant after the battle of Fredericksburg, and was later commissioned Captain of his company. At the time of the surrender, Captain Bitting was at home on a furlough, and while there was captured during Stoneman's raid through Carolina. There was a little romance connected with his release. General Palmer, then in charge, was quartered at the home of Captain Bitting's sweetheart, and she by her amiable disposition and interesting manner made a favorable impression on the general, who, through her intercession, granted Captain Bitting a parole, and shortly afterward the struggle closed.

After the war, Captain Bitting engaged in mercantile business at Salisbury, North Carolina, and there continued merchandising with a reasonable degree of success until 1873. But the ravages of war had left their imprint on the old States, and it was a slow process to build up a fortune in that locality. Accordingly Captain Bitting decided to close out his business there and seek a location in a new country, where the opportunities for a young man's advancement were greater. Taking, therefore, Horace Greeley's advice, he came West to Texas, and after a prospecting tour, visited this rich section of the country, which was then an almost uncultivated prairie. The soil, however, was most fertile, and a short time previously the Houston & Texas Central Railroad Company had located a station at the point where Manor now stands. Captain Bitting's judgment told him that a country like this could not long remain undeveloped, and he thus concluded to try his chances at this place. He accordingly embarked, in a small way, in the general merchandise business, nor was he in error in his predictions, for in the short period of twenty years this section of Travis





county has advanced from a most sparsely settled to a thickly populated community of prosperous planters. Captain Bitting's business has kept pace with the growth of the country, and as the latter has developed he has enlarged his supply to meet the demands of his constantly increasing trade. When he settled here Manor was simply a little station out on the prairie on a new railroad, and he embarked in business in a small frame building and in a small way. He now has a large, handsome brick store house, 75 x 100 feet, which would be a credit to any city in Texas, and he carries a general stock of merchandise, amounting to about \$20,000, and does a business of from \$50,000 to \$60,000 annually, while the town of Manor has grown to be the second largest city in Travis county. In connection with his extensive mercantile pursuits, the Captain has large agricultural interests, owning 3,000 acres of the best soil in Texas, 1,000 acres of which are under a high state of cultivation. Besides these various interests, he is the correspondent in Manor for all the banks, for which he collects, there being no bank in the place.

The Captain's prosperity is due to a combination of causes, among which his affable disposition, honorable and upright business principles and courteous, accommodating treatment of his patrons, play a prominent part, winning for him the confidence and esteem of the entire community and the State at large, while he enjoys a popularity which is seldom experienced by the prosperous men of the country. He has been among the foremost to contribute his means and influence to aid every laudable enterprise having for its object the benefit of the community; and it is undisputed fact that he has done his full share in the up-building of

Manor and the development of the surrounding country, which locality now has the reputation of being one of the most desirable places for a home in Texas, owing to the educational, religious and moral advantages.

While the Captain has his time and attention fully occupied by his various personal interests, he is not unmindful of his social obligations as a citizen, as is demonstrated by his able service in the capacity of a member of the Board of Directors of the State Lunatic Asylum, to which position he was appointed during the administration of Governor S. S. Ross. He is an active member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken all the degrees, and is also an Odd Fellow of prominence and a Knight of Honor. While not an aspirant for political preferment, he uses his influence in favor of the Democratic party.

Captain Bitting was first married in Yadkin county, North Carolina, September 1, 1865, to Miss Julia E., daughter of Dr. George Wilson, an eminent professional man of the Old North State. To this union were born ten children, five of whom are now living: Renben E., in business with his father; Eugenia Hampton, wife of William L. Bitting, a successful druggist of Sherman, Texas; Lizzie, Leigh and Julia, at home. Captain Bitting was called upon to mourn the death of his estimable wife in 1885, in which bereavement he had the sympathy of all who knew and appreciated her in many worthy qualities of mind and heart. August 3, 1893, he suffered another affliction in the loss of his daughter Florence, a beautiful girl just blooming into womanhood, who was called to join her mother in that home which knows no parting. In Austin, Texas, in 1887, Captain Bitting was again married, his second wife being Margaret A. Griffin, a



lady of rare culture and refinement, who is a native of Vaiden, Mississippi.

With Captain Bitting's career as an index to the worth of a Texas citizen, we are convinced there are giants in these days, not the physical prodigies of ancient and mythological times, but the mental and moral individuals who build commonwealths to endure and form governments which are the wonder of the world.



**CAPTAIN A. P. McCORD.**—As the name indicates, the subject of this sketch comes partly of Scotch stock. His paternal great-grandfather, a native of Scotland, was an early emigrant to America, probably being one of those sturdy followers of John Knox who were forced by the religious persecutions of the last century to seek the freedom of conscience in this country denied them in their own. He settled in one of the southeast Atlantic coast States, where his descendants became prosperous planters, and where many of them now reside. Spartansburg District, South Carolina, was the birth-place of Jesse C. McCord, the father of A. P. McCord. He was taken by his parents to Georgia when young, and reared in Walton county, where he subsequently married, and moved thence to Upson county, where he lived the greater part of his life. A plain planter of ample means, his years on earth were passed peacefully and profitably, and he died in the enjoyment of the respect and good will of those among whom he had lived. His death occurred in 1887, in Brooks county, Georgia, in the seventy-ninth year of his age. Captain McCord's mother, *nee* Elizabeth Thirmond, was a daughter of a respectable and

well-to-do planter of Walton county, Georgia, where she was born and reared. She is still living, being a resident now of Brooks county, Georgia, where she makes her home with her daughter. Of the seven children of Jesse C. and Elizabeth McCord, four are now living: Robert Kenneth; Mrs. Martha Naylor, wife of Charles A. Naylor, of Quitman, Georgia; Mrs. Lucy J. Owen, wife of Allen F. Owen, of Cedartown, Georgia; and Augustus P., the subject of this notice.

The last named was born in Walton county, Georgia, in 1843, and was reared in Upson county, near Thomaston. June, 1861, at the age of eighteen, he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in an organization known as the Columbus Volunteers, with which he went at once to the front and entered the Army of Northern Virginia. He saw service in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Georgia, taking part in all the engagements in which his command took part except when prevented from so doing by disabilities received in the field. He was wounded at the second battle of Manassas, Chickamauga and Cold Harbor, and lost in the aggregate nearly a year's time from service. He entered the army as a private, became First Lieutenant of his company in 1863, and was commanding it at the close of the war.

Returning to Georgia after the surrender, he resided from 1865 to 1869 at Thomaston, where he was engaged in farming and handling live-stock, and from 1869 to 1882 at Rome, where he was similarly engaged. In May, 1883, he came to Texas, and located at Cameron, Milam county, where for eight years he handled live-stock. In April, 1892, in connection with Messrs. Crawford & Crawford, of the Milam County Bank, he erected the Milam County Cotton-Oil Mills, one of



the largest and most prosperous enterprises of the kind in central Texas, to which he has since given his time and attention.

Captain McCord married, in Thomaston, Georgia, March 12, 1867, Marianna J. May, a native of Crawford county, Georgia, and a daughter of Rev. P. L. J. May, an able minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church of his State. To this union nine children have been born, all but one of whom are living. To his business and his family Captain McCord is devoted without reservation, never having held office of any kind, and never having sought any employment or diversion inconsistent with his duties to these. He is an ardent Democrat and a thoughtful observer of political matters, a Mason, a member of the American Legion of Honor and of the Knights of Honor.



**A**ARON F. AND WILLIAM BOYCE, farmers on Gilliland's creek, Travis county, twelve miles from Austin, are representatives of one of the pioneer families of the county, and both are native-born Texans. They are sons of Aaron F. and Elizabeth (Ely) Boyce. The latter was the daughter of Isaac Ely, a native of Kentucky, and the former was born in Tennessee, February 21, 1800. When a young man he went to Ralls county, Missouri, and was there married, at New London, in 1822. They lived but a short time in that State, having been attracted to Wisconsin by the development of the lead-mining industry. Mr. Boyce invested in mining property at Prairie du Chien and Galena, and was becoming quite wealthy when the severity of the winters caused him to come to Texas. They landed in Bastrop county in the fall of

1837, and about one year later bought a league of land on Gilliland's creek, a part of which our subject still owns. Mr. Boyce had been accustomed to pioneer life before, had taken an active part in the famous Black Hawk war in Wisconsin, and was therefore well qualified to occupy an advanced position on the Texas frontier. The Indians, however, became so troublesome in a short time that it became necessary to their safety to move nearer a settlement, and they therefore spent some time in the Hornsby Bend neighborhood, on the river, returning to their home in 1842. Mr. and Mrs. Boyce had ten children, namely: Mary Ann, deceased October 30, 1866, was the wife of Mark Moss; Isaac Ely married and raised a family, and died January 17, 1883; James, deceased; Stephen, who raised a family, and died September 25, 1865; Elizabeth, deceased March 11, 1870, was the wife of Dr. R. B. Pumphrey; Elvira, widow of A. W. Morrow, and a resident of Taylor, Texas; Harriet, deceased in infancy; Melvina A., wife of De Witt C. Booth, of Taylor; Aaron F. and William, subjects of this sketch; and John, who enlisted for the late war in Ford's cavalry regiment, and died of yellow fever at Brownsville, Texas, August 21, 1864. James Boyce, the third son, was a young man when he moved with his father to Travis county, and was noted as an Indian fighter. One day he started from home to Austin, but had gone only three miles when he was attacked, while crossing Walnut creek, by a band of Lipan Indians. He turned toward home, and led them a brave chase for two miles, when he was overtaken, killed and scalped, in sight of home. This occurred in 1842. Mr. Boyce, the father of these children, met a violent death while deer-hunting near his home. While chasing a deer about dusk, September





3, 1846, his horse stumbled and fell on him, and he died the following day. The mother was spared to her family for many years, dying January 19, 1884, at the age of seventy-nine years.

Aaron F. Boyce was born February 29, 1840. At the opening of the late war he joined Company F, Eighteenth Texas Cavalry, and participated in the battles of Cotton Plant, Arkansas Post, Harrisonburg, Natchez, Mansfield and Pleasant Hill. At the last engagement he was severely wounded in his left hand, returned home on a furlough, and never again entered the army. After returning home he was elected County Clerk of Travis county, and held that position until the close of hostilities. He now owns a fine farm of 330 acres, 125 acres of which is cultivated. In his political relations he acts with the Democratic party, and socially is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Mr. Boyce was married in Travis county, February 28, 1866, to Mary M. Cain, a native of Hot Springs county, Arkansas, who came with her parents to Texas in 1855. She was a daughter of J. Y. and Philadelphia Cain. Mr. and Mrs. Boyce have seven children: Imogene, now Mrs. Ira Aten, of Castro county, Texas; John Ely, also of that county; Elizabeth, Isabelle, Benjamin, David and Lucile.

William Boyce was born on the place he now occupies, January 17, 1842. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company F, Darnell's cavalry regiment, went first to Indian Territory, and thence to Arkansas, where he participated in the battle of Arkansas Post. The entire company was captured there, and taken to Camp Douglas, Chicago. While on the road measles and small-pox broke out, and many of the soldiers

fell by the dread hand of disease. Mr. Boyce was captured January 11, 1863, and held a prisoner until the following April, when he was exchanged at City Point, Virginia. He again enlisted for service, entering Granbury's Texas brigade of infantry, took part in several small engagements, and was twice wounded in the battle of Chickamunga, in the left shoulder and head, which rendered him unfit for duty, and he retired from the army.

Mr. Boyce now owns 360 acres of good land, 250 acres of which is cultivated. He is a Democrat in his political views, and socially is a Master Mason.

November 4, 1868, near Austin, our subject was married to Kate, a daughter of Samuel and Mary A. (Chunn) Stone. The father built and ran the first ferryboat across the Colorado river in Bastrop county. They were the parents of six children: Martha, deceased; John B., in Mexico; Thomas H., of Martindale, Texas; Samuel T., of Austin; Charles W., a resident of Lockhart, Texas; and Kate, wife of our subject. The following was written on the occasion of the death of Mr. Stone:

"Our community was pained to learn on Friday last of the death of Samuel Stone, proprietor of the ferry below the city, and one of our oldest citizens. Mr. Stone has had a long and eventful life. He was born in Bedford county, Virginia, in 1797, and was consequently in his sixtieth year. He enlisted as a soldier in the American army in 1814. In 1819 he moved to Tennessee, then a frontier of almost unbroken forests. In 1824 he moved to Alabama, having married in Tennessee. In 1829 he again removed, this time to Missouri. Under the impulse which ever drove him toward a new country, he moved in 1839 to Texas, then far less



civilized than now. On a visit to San Antonio in 1842, he was taken prisoner by General Woll, and carried to Mexico, where, at Perote, he endured hunger, chains, and all the manifold sufferings of a captive in the hands of Mexicans. Returning to Texas after two years' captivity, he removed in 1845 from Bastrop to Austin. In 1848 he visited California, returning to Austin in 1851, and has since resided here, well known to almost every one in the city and vicinity, and here closed at last his wanderings to the grave.

"Mr. Stone was a man of noble and generous impulses, an affectionate husband and father, and a warm friend; and his character has received its form and coloring from the frontier life he has always led. His sickness was rapid and malignant from the first, and he was earnest in supplication to the Throne of Grace for pardon and acceptance with God, through the merits of a divine Redeemer. His remains were attended to the grave by the Masonic fraternity, of which he was a member, as well as by many others of his many friends. He will long be remembered as one of the few and brave pioneers of that civilization which so many are now permitted to enjoy."

Mr. and Mrs. Boyce have had seven children: Maud, now Mrs. I. P. Jones, of Travis county; Mary, wife of H. L. Hill, who resides with our subject; Albert G., Beatrice, Clandie, Dona and Gladys, at home.



**C**OLONEL J. C. DEGRESS, Postmaster of Austin, was born in Cologne, Prussia, April 23, 1842, a son of Charles and Walburga (Bramino) DeGress, the former a native of Prussia, and the latter of Italy.

The father was an officer in the army, studied medicine in his native country, and, after coming to the United States in 1853, practiced his profession at Cape Girardeau, Missouri. He died in 1856, at the age of fifty-five years. Both he and his wife were members of the Catholic Church, and the latter died in 1885, aged seventy-four years. Mr. and Mrs. DeGress were the parents of eight children, six of whom are now living—four in the United States and two in Mexico.

Colonel DeGress was educated in Europe and at Cape Girardeau, Missouri. May 10, 1861, he enlisted in the United States service in the Third Missouri Reserve Infantry; he subsequently raised Company K, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, of which he was commissioned Captain February 15, 1862. He first served under General Nathaniel Lyon, next under General Curtis, and then under Grant at Vicksburg. At the battle of Vicksburg he was twice wounded, on the same day, one ball entering the left leg at the ankle, and the other, a piece of shell, striking him near the right eye. After his recovery from these injuries, in December, 1863, Captain DeGress rejoined his company in Louisiana, took part in a number of battles under General Banks, and April 7, 1864, he was wounded in the left leg. Waiting only for nature to grant her healing benefices, in September of the same year he was detailed as Aide-de-Camp on the staff of General Mower, participating in a number of battles. He was also with Sherman in the memorable march from Atlanta to the sea. For meritorious service at the battle of Bayou de Glaize, Louisiana, he was promoted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, and May 12, 1865, was promoted Major and Aide-de-Camp. Colonel DeGress was honorably mustered out of service September 1, 1866, and on July 28 of the same year was ap-



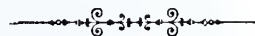


pointed First Lieutenant of the Ninth Cavalry in the United States army; was made Captain July 31, 1867, and December 31, 1870, on account of wounds received during the war, was placed on the retired list of the army. He was brevetted Captain and Major for gallant and meritorious service during the siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi, and Lieutenant-Colonel for similar services at the battle of Bayou de Glaize, Louisiana, in the United States army.

May 24, 1871, Colonel DeGress was appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction of Texas, holding that office for three years. In 1877 he was elected to fill an unexpired term as Mayor of Austin. At the expiration of this partial term he was re-elected, and was again elected his own successor in 1879. He resigned the position in August, 1880. In July, 1881, he was appointed by President Garfield as Postmaster of Austin, and was re-appointed by President Harrison in October, 1889. He was Chairman of the State Republican Committee for 1888-'89-'90, and was Commander of the Department of Texas, G. A. R., for 1888.

Our subject was first married January 1, 1867, to Mrs. Bettie Young, a daughter of Eliphalet Buckner, who was Judge of the Castroville district, in western Texas. He had two children; his son, Thomas L. Buckner, died in Texas in 1878. Colonel and Mrs. DeGress had seven children, six of whom died in early childhood. Cordelia C., the only one now living, graduated with the highest honors at St. Mary's Academy, in the class of 1891. The wife and mother died July 5, 1880, at the age of thirty-five years. She was a member of the Roman Catholic Church, although her family were Episcopalians. Colonel DeGress was again married August 2, 1882, to Miss W. M. Johnston, a

daughter of Colonel I. W. Johnston, of Stonewall, Indian Territory. They have three children: Francis Brackenridge, Bettie Belknap and Jacob Charles. The Colonel is a member of the Catholic Church, and his wife of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The latter is a cousin of General Joseph E. Johnston, of the Confederate States army. Our subject takes an active interest in the Republican party, and is Chairman of the Ninth Congressional District of Texas. As a soldier he was courageous, composed and level-headed; as a citizen, is kind, generous and hospitable; as a public officer, is prompt, obliging and courteous. He has made a record of which his adopted State may well be proud.



**J** II. SPARKMAN, of Milam county, is a son of Rev. J. C. and Louisa (Roundtree) Sparkman. Three brothers of that name came from England to this country in Colonial times. One located in North Carolina, from whom our subject is a direct descendant; another in Maryland, and his descendants spell their name Sparksman; and the third in Massachusetts, whose ancestors spell the name Parkman. The grandfather of our subject, William Sparkman, was a volunteer in the Revolutionary war, served under Colonel William Polk, and after the close of the struggle moved with his family to Williamson county, Tennessee. While there he enlisted for service in the war of 1812, took part in the battle of Canebrake with Jackson's army, where he was captured and held a prisoner until peace was declared. Mr. Sparkman continued to reside in Tennessee until his death. The father of our subject, during the infancy of the latter,





Wm T. Hurler



moved to Lawrenceburgh, Tennessee, and in 1855 to a point near Clifton, that State, where the mother died in 1880 and the father in 1884. The latter was a minister in the Missionary Baptist Church for fifty years, and during that time gave particular attention to missionary work, having established many churches in middle Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Sparkman were the parents of three children: William T., a farmer of Lauderdale county, Alabama; John W., a minister of the Christian Church at Millin, Tennessee; and J. H., the subject of this sketch.

J. H. Sparkman was born in Columbia, Maury county, Tennessee, February 5, 1837. He attended the common schools, and also spent two years in Jackson College, Columbia. At the age of seventeen years he engaged with his father in a tannery, and in 1870 opened a hide business in Sulphur Springs, Hopkins county, Texas. In 1874 he located in Rockdale, Milam county, where he was engaged as a dealer in hides until 1886, and since that year, under the firm name of Sparkman & Co., has been a conveyancer, land and loan agent, life and insurance agent and Notary Public. In 1861 Mr. Sparkman joined Captain J. B. Bittle's company of cavalry, which became a part of the First Tennessee Cavalry, under Colonel James Wheeler. The summer of 1861 was spent in a camp of instruction, and in the following fall was ordered into Kentucky, under Buckner. On account of the monotony of service Mr. Sparkman sought work in the secret service department, where he served during the remainder of the war or in prison. His first trip was in company with Alexander Todd, a brother of Mrs. Lincoln. He had many exciting and perilous trips within the enemy's lines, was captured several times, but was always fortunate in being released.

Mr. Sparkman was married at Sulphur Springs, Texas, April 9, 1869, to Mallie S., a daughter of Dr. J. E. Robertson. The Robertsons are of Scotch descent, and settled in Virginia in an early day, where Mrs. Sparkman was born and raised. Our subject is independent in his political views, is liberal in religious matters, and, socially, is a member of the K. of H. and the K. & L. of H. He is a stockholder and was formerly vice-president of the Rockdale Mining and Manufacturing Company.



**W**ILLIAM VANCE HEFLEY, an old settler of Milam county and the head of a large and influential family of this county, is a native of North Carolina, born in the county of Haywood, July 25, 1820. His American ancestors, who were early settlers in the old States, came originally from Holland and Ireland, Thomas Hefley, his paternal grandfather, being a native of Holland, who emigrated to this country in an early day and settled in South Carolina, whence he moved later to Haywood county, North Carolina. Both he and his wife died in that county, having lived to an advanced age, and passed their entire lives in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. Martin Hefley, the father of the subject of this notice, was probably born in Holland, being young when his parents came to America. He was reared in Haywood county, North Carolina. He married Clarissa Mahaffey, of Lincoln county, that State, she being a daughter of Joseph Mahaffey, a native of Ireland, who settled in the Catskill country of Pennsylvania toward the close of the last century, whence he moved about 1780 or 1785 to North Carolina. Clarissa Mahaffey was born in Lincoln county,







North Carolina, in which county was situated the old family seat where her parents had for many years lived and where they died and were buried. Martin Hefley and wife resided in North Carolina for a number of years after their marriage, but in 1829 emigrated to west Tennessee and settled near Lexington, in Henderson county, where they both died in November, 1841, each aged fifty-one years. They were plain, substantial people, up to the average in point of intelligence, wealth, industry and the household virtues, and reared a family of seven children, to whom they transmitted these possessions in a reasonable degree. The father, although not a public character, was a patriotic citizen and discharged acceptably all the functions and duties of such. He was a volunteer in the war of 1812, but was never in active service, the war closing just as his company reached Wadesboro, North Carolina, and reported for duty. He was a Major in the local militia, and figured in the military annals of his county on "muster day," those great occasions of ginger-bread, hard cider and other semi-social and military festivities.

The subject of this notice is the second in point of age of the seven children of Martin and Clarissa Hefley, the others being an older sister, Eliza, who was married to William Whittle and moved to Alabama, where she died, leaving a family; Joseph M., who died at Nashville, Tennessee, in 1834, at the age of thirty-one, unmarried; Phillip Jackson, who died in Henderson county, Tennessee, where his descendants now live; George W., a resident of Belton, Texas; Samuel M., a resident of Cameron; and Harriet Caroline, the widow of James Mollitt, living now in Henderson county, Tennessee.

William V. Hefley, of this article, was principally reared in Henderson county, Tennessee. He was brought up on the farm and received only the limited education offered by the schools of that date. On February 15, 1844, he married Miss Jane Emily Renshaw, a daughter of John and Martha (Walkup) Renshaw and a native of Henderson county, where her parents were early settlers. In 1854 Mr. Hefley came to Texas, leaving Henderson county, Tennessee, October 9, and reaching Cameron, Milam county, December 3 following. He came overland, the usual, and in fact only mode of travel in that day, following the trails as they had had been established from point to point and meeting with such experiences as befell the early immigrants. In Panola county, Mississippi, he was joined by his father-in-law, John Renshaw, and his family. Their route lay by way of Helena, Arkansas, where they crossed the Mississippi river, thence to Harris' Ferry, where White river was crossed, thence to Camden, where the Washita was crossed, thence by way of Palestine to the Trinity, which was crossed at Bonner's Ferry and the Brazos at the falls.

It had been Mr. Hefley's intention to locate on the Gaudalupe, but, it being mid-winter, the roads became impassable, and he made a temporary stop in Milam county, where, liking the country, he decided to cast his lot. The first year he lived at Cameron. He then bought a tract of land consisting of 300 acres in the Lewis league, lying about a mile and a half north and west of Cameron, on which he took up his residence in 1855. When he purchased the place it was practically without improvements, all that had been done having been the breaking of some ten or twelve acres. Mr. Hefley selected as a building site a pecan grove, sufficiently high



and rolling to give good drainage, which in times past had been something of a meeting-place of the early settlers on public occasions, and which was indeed a very sightly place for a residence. Here he erected a one-story, double log house, with an open porch between, finished as was the custom of finishing houses in those days,—chinked and pointed with clay, covered with rived boards and floored with puncheons, the chimneys being made of brick and clay. The house, for the kind, was neat, commodious and comfortable, fully up to, if not ahead of, the average farm house of the times. Having been reared to farming, Mr. Hefley resumed it in his new home. For nearly forty years he has resided in the vicinity where he first located, and he is now tilling soil which he was the first to turn more than a third of a century ago. The country then was but sparsely settled, and of those who were his neighbors at the time all, with one exception, are gone. He recalls the names of the Hall brothers, James and Peter, living about seven miles to the southwest, being the nearest neighbors in that direction, and George Green, living about a mile east, and others, as his associates in an early day, all of whom have passed away, but are pleasantly remembered for their friendship and neighborly deeds.

Mr. Hefley and his wife, who yet abides with him, are now occupying the old homestead almost alone, but one daughter being a member of their household, the remainder of the children having married and settled in life for themselves. Of their thirteen children ten are living, the full number being John M., Mattie A. (now Mrs. Batte), Hattie E. (now Mrs. Lott), Joseph W. (deceased), Lafayette J., James S., William T., Laura A. (now Mrs. Wallace), Mollie R. (now Mrs.

Lay), Lula J. (deceased), Jeff D., Henry B. (deceased), and Emma V. (now Mrs. Hardy). Of the ten children living eight are residents of this county, and all are married. The sons are among the leading business men of Cameron, progressive, enterprising and public-spirited,—first in everything looking to the advancement of the interests of their town and county. Naturally Mr. Hefley takes great pride in his children and in his home, being a man of strong domestic tastes and gentle, sympathetic nature. His life has centered in these and he has stamped his convictions and character on them in no small measure.

He has never sought to fill the public eye, preferring the private walks of life with the certainty of a competence and an old age filled with pleasant recollections to the turmoils of a political career and the disappointments which so often attend on such a career. He cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison in the famous "hard cider and log cabin" contest of 1840, and from that date on voted with the Whig party as long as it maintained an organization, going with the Democrats on the disintegration of the Whig party and voting with the Democratic party ever since. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church, and have been for many years, Mrs. Hefley coming of a family that has furnished a number of divines to that church, some of them having attained local prominence in their calling, and all of them having served well their day and generation.

In personal appearance Mr. Hefley is large of mold, being fully six feet in height and weighing nearly 240 pounds. His physique is well rounded out, presenting no unpleasant angles. His character, marked for firmness, determination, persistence in that which



he believes to be right and for the best, can be easily traced in the lines of the clean-shaven face, the square jaw and the prominent chin. To the home-born virtues of honesty, industry and love of family and fire-side, inherited from his sturdy Dutch ancestors, have been added in full measure the genial wit, love of knowledge and relish for the lighter graces of life characteristic of the sons of the "Emerald Isle," back to which he traces his ancestry on his mother's side. He is a type of the American citizen, now too fast disappearing amidst the rapid influx of foreign immigration and the development of character along lines not pursued by the "early fathers."



**W**ILLIAM ALLEN B. HOWELL, a successful farmer of Travis county, is a son of John O. Howell, who was born in Maury county, Tennessee, in 1824. In 1872 the latter moved to Nashville, Washington county, Illinois, and in 1878 located near Manor, Travis county, Texas, where he still resides. He is a retired farmer, affiliates with the Democratic party, and has been a member of the Christian Church since eighteen years of age, being a son of Jesse C. and M. (Oliver) Howell, natives of North Carolina, who moved to Tennessee in an early day. Jesse C. Howell was a son of John Howell, a native of North Carolina, who afterward moved to Tennessee. He was a farmer by occupation. The Howell family are of Irish descent. The mother of our subject, *nee* Eliza McMannus, was also born in Maury county, Tennessee, in 1825, a daughter of Thomas and Barbora McMannus, natives of North Carolina. Both died in Tennessee. Thomas was a son of Aaron

McMannus, who died in Maury county, Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. John O. Howell have had twelve children, namely: Aaron, deceased; William A. B., our subject; Thomas J., deceased; Mary Jane, wife of Henry Oliver, of Jones county, Texas; Parlee, wife of Jackson Howell, of Travis county; George W., also of this county; Minerva, wife of William Fuller, of Williamson county; John, a resident of Travis county; Maggie, wife of Frank Fuller, of Williamson county; Fannie, deceased when young; Sarah, wife of William Bell, of Manor; and the youngest child died at the age of twelve years.

William Allen B. Howell, the subject of this sketch, was born in Maury county, Tennessee, in 1848. At the age of eighteen years he engaged in farming and merchandising, which he continued four years, and in the fall of 1872 located in Washington county, Illinois. In the fall of 1878 Mr. Howell engaged in farming and stock-raising three miles from Manor, Texas, but one year later sold his interests there, and in 1883 came to his present location. Our subject began life for himself at the age of eighteen years, with comparatively nothing, and he now owns 165 acres of land, 100 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation, and well stocked.

In 1866 he was united in marriage to Minerva Weatherford, who was born in 1840. They had twelve children, four being deceased. The surviving are: Mary E., wife of John Free, of Jones county, Texas; William T., a resident of Travis county; John M., of this county; Minerva Jane, wife of James Foster, of this county; Mac, of Travis county; and Artie, Cora and Xena, at home. The wife and mother died in 1887, having been a constant member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Howell was afterward married in Maury county, Tennessee, to Mary Bar-





nett, a native of that county, and a daughter of Pink and C. Barnett, natives also of Tennessee. To that union was born one child, which died in infancy. Mrs. Howell died in 1889, and in 1890 our subject married Ella Ashmore, a native of Lawrence county, Tennessee, and a daughter of J. B. and Nannie (Bell) Ashmore, also natives of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Howell have one child, Erna. In his political relations, Mr. Howell affiliates with the Democratic party, and has served as School Trustee. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.



REV. JAMES M. LITTLE, of Milano, is a native of Georgia, of which state his parents were also natives. His father, Forester Little, was born in 1778 and resided in his native State until his death, which occurred in 1844. He was a son of Forester and Sarah Little, natives of Ireland who emigrated to America in 1777, landing at Charleston, South Carolina, whence they went to Georgia, where they settled and spent the remainder of their lives. The younger Little was a planter by occupation, a man of some means, possessed a fair English education, was well informed on the history of his country and devoted to all of its interests and institutions. He was for years a member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, of which he was a Ruling Elder, a man of kindly nature, exemplary habits and zealous Christian life. The mother of the subject of this notice, whose maiden name was Sarah Ann Williams, was born in 1800, and was a daughter of James and Polly Ann Williams, who were natives of North Carolina but for many years residents of Georgia, where they died. Mrs. Little died in 1849.

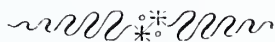
She and her husband were the parents of four children, only two of whom are now living, the subject of this notice and a sister, Sarah Jane, who is now the wife of James Davis and resides in Bastrop county, this State. The eldest daughter, Mary Ann, was married to King H. Mullins, and died in Texas. The second, Margaret F., was married to Robert Little and died in Georgia.

James M. Little of this sketch was born in Jefferson county, Georgia, September 20, 1828. His parents moving to Stewart county, that State, when he was eight years old, he was reared principally in that county. He received a good education in his youth. In 1849 he married Miss Martha A. Pendrey of Georgia, a daughter of John and Martha Pendrey, and in 1860 moved to Alabama, settling at Andalusia, Covington county, where he engaged in the practice of the law. He was a resident of the last named place until 1876, when he came to Texas, locating in Milam county, which has since been his home. He was engaged for sixteen years in the practice of law in Alabama, but on coming to this State abandoned the profession and began the ministry in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, to which and farming he has since devoted his time and attention. Without aspiring to public life he has been honored with many local offices, the duties of which he has always discharged acceptably to his fellow-citizens and has honored the office quite as much as the office has honored the man. Beginning with the office of Justice of the Peace, to which he was elected in Stewart county, Georgia, at the age of twenty-two, he held the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction in Covington county, Alabama, for two years; was Prosecuting Attorney of his district for nine years; was Justice of



the Peace in Milam county for five years, County Commissioner for four years, and School Trustee for ten years. He has given nineteen years active work to the ministry, having been a Ruling Elder since he was eighteen.

In 1892 Mr. Little lost his wife by death, she having borne him eight children, but four of whom survive. The two eldest were Sarah Ann Ruhama and Mary E.; the latter was married to C. C. Thomasson, and died; Mary F., now living, is the widow of David Bullock and resides in Covington county, Alabama; Susanna Jane is the wife of Andrew Beard, of Milam county, Texas; James E. is deceased; Sam G. is still at home; Frances Louisa is deceased; and John Lowery is yet with his father. Mr. Little was married a second time in 1892, to Miss Susanna Mitchell, of Hardin county, Texas, a native of Alabama and daughter of Albert Mitchell. All of his family belong to the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and like himself are zealous in all church work.



**J**OSEPH A. HUFFMAN, an honored Confederate veteran, bearing many wounds and known as an enterprising and successful farmer of Milam county, was born in Alabama, December 8, 1842, the only child of Joseph and Jennette Cameron Huffman, natives of South Carolina. In 1852 the parents moved to Texas and after a year's residence in Bastrop county they settled in Milam county. Here Joseph A. passed his youth on his father's farm, receiving a meager common-school education. In 1861 he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Company G, Fifth Texas Infantry, being then but little past his eighteenth

year. His command being assigned to duty in the Army of Northern Virginia, he saw service mostly in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, serving under Hood and Longstreet. He was wounded at Gaines' Mills in 1862 by a gunshot in the face and shoulder, and by this wound was disabled from duty for over a year. Recovering, he joined his command again, and was again three times wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, being shot through the right thigh, the left ankle and left foot. The last wounds disabled him for the remainder of the war and he remained in the hospitals in Virginia until the summer of 1865, not reaching his home in Texas until September of that year. For eight months after the war closed he went on crutches and was able to do but little active work. In the meantime, however, he took charge of his father's farm in Milam county and directed operations on it. In 1863 he married, and having come into possession of some property by the death of his father, he engaged in farming and stock-raising, at which he has continued since. He owns 700 acres of land four miles west of Cameron, most of which is devoted to stock-raising. Mr. Huffman is an enterprising and public-spirited man, prominent in local matters and greatly respected as a citizen. He is the only representative of his name in Milam county, being an only child and his parents being now deceased. His mother died in this county in 1858 and his father in 1866, aged sixty.



**W**ILLIAM M. TAYLOR, the subject of this notice, more familiarly and better known in this county as "Tup" Taylor, was born in Martin county,



North Carolina, in 1838, where his father, McClem Taylor, was also born, in 1800. The latter was a son of Richard Taylor, who was born in North Carolina, in 1773, and there became a large planter, accumulating much property in land and slaves, dying at the age of sixty-seven. He reared a family of seven children, of whom McClem, the father of William M. of this article, was the third in age.

In 1841 McClem Taylor left North Carolina and took up his residence in Mississippi, where he resided four years, when he moved to Claiborne parish, Louisiana, and thirteen years later to Texas, settling in Milam county, where he bought land and opened up a farm on the Brazos river. The title to this land being defective, Mr. Taylor lost his home some years after locating in this county. He never sought or held office and had no military record, having been too old to take any part in the late war, but furnished three sons for that cause. He was a member of the Missionary Baptist Church for more than thirty years, and always observed the strictest integrity. He contributed liberally of his means to all laudable purposes when in condition to do so, and when his death occurred suddenly in April, 1892, a sorrowing community followed him to his last resting place near Caddo Church. He was first married to Miss Sarah Banks, by whom he had the following children: Jennet, Louisa, deceased, who married J. M. Cargill; James H.; Eliza, died young; Mary, deceased, first married John Leatherman and after his death James Scoggin; William M., of this article; Alexander; Sallie, deceased, who married David Allday. In 1845 Mrs. Taylor died, and three years later Mr. Taylor married Mrs. Cynthia Ann Peters, *nee* Cargill, and by this union there were five children:

Olivia, John, Parthenia, deceased, Louisa and Edward. Mrs. Taylor, the second, died in February, 1879.

W. M. Taylor was raised mainly in Claiborne parish, Louisiana, accompanying his father, in 1859, to Texas, locating in Milam county, where he worked with and near his father until the opening of the late war. In the spring of 1861 he enlisted in Company F, Captain Stinnett, Eighth Texas Infantry, Colonel Young. With this command he remained during the war. He served west of the Mississippi river. The first fight was at Young's Point on the Mississippi river. Afterward he took part in the battles of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Jenkins' Ferry and Yellow Bayou. The command then returned to Texas and were disbanded at Hempstead, May, 1865.

Mr. Taylor returned home at once and resumed work on the farm, one pony being all he had left with which to make his first crop. The second year he bought a small tract of land near Jones Prairie on Pond creek, and this he retained two years, when he made several removals, but finally, in 1878, bought 500 acres near Wilderville, unimproved, on which to settle and to which he has added by purchase until his holdings amount to 700 acres, 350 acres of which are in cultivation. About eighty-five bales of cotton annually are grown, besides grain and stock products in proportion.

Politically, Mr. Taylor is a Democrat, but takes only a casual interest in partisan politics. He is a valued member of the Masonic order, holding membership in the lodge at Rosebush.

In 1867 Mr. Taylor married Mary B., daughter of Peter Allday. She was born in 1845, in Georgia, and is a sister of David Allday, in whose sketch in this work a full





history of the family will be found. With her family she is attached to the Baptist Church. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are: Lena, who is now deceased; David; Florence; Charles, deceased; Clein; Peter; Berta; Milton; William and Theophilis, known as "Sid."



**R** B. HUTTO, a prosperous young farmer of Hutto, Williamson county, is a son of J. E. Hutto, a pioneer of Texas. J. E. Hutto was born in Alabama, June 8, 1824, and was reared on a farm in his native State. Upon his arrival in Texas in 1847 he engaged in farming and stock-raising in Travis county. About 1855 he moved to Williamson county, settling near where Hutto has since been built, this town having been named in honor of him. Here for twenty years, between 1855 and 1875, he was one of the wealthy cattle-men of this section of the country. He continued to reside here until 1885, when he took up his residence in Waco, Texas, where he is now engaged in the hardware business. He was in the Confederate army three years. It was not until after he came to this State that he was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Margaret Hughes, of Alabama. They have had the following named children: J. R., a gin man of Hutto; J. E., a prosperous farmer of Williamson county; W. T.; C. W.; R. B.; H. E.; Ellen, who married J. S. Monday; Nettie, who married J. A. Blanton; and an infant that died at the age of three years.

R. B. Hutto was born in Williamson county, Texas, August 31, 1857. He grew up on his father's ranch and assisted in caring for his father's cattle until he reached his majority. He then launched out in the cattle busi-

ness for himself, in which he was engaged for nine years, and at the end of that time disposed of his cattle interests for \$25,000. He then invested in farm property near Hutto, and now gives his chief attention to the raising of cotton, making an occasional trade. He is cultivating 350 acres of his 700-acre tract. His cotton crop in 1892 amounted to 132 bales.

March 13, 1885, Mr. Hutto married Alice, daughter of Albert Barker. The other children in the Barker family are Jesse, Gus, Calvin, Ollie, Benjamin and Katie. Mr. and Mrs. Hutto have three children: Willis, born in 1886; Jessie, in 1889, and May, in 1892.

Mr. Hutto's success is attributed to his great energy, backed by good judgment, a combination not common to a great majority of our business men.



**J**OSEPH MELASKEY, one of the pioneer merchants of Taylor, was born in Russia in 1851, a son of Mendal and Jennie (Brownie) Melaskey. Our subject received his education in Hebrew, being what is commonly called a Jew, or Israelite. He came to America at the age of twenty years, landed in the city of New Orleans, and then came as a steerage passenger to Galveston, Texas. Mr. Melaskey was then without money, and suffered much for proper food. While in that city he met a Mr. Blum, who gave him \$25 and sent him to his uncle, B. Melaskey, at Austin. After remaining there one month our subject began selling water-melons, peaches, etc., in front of his uncle's store, and in one month made as high as \$200. His uncle then gave him a team of horses, a light wagon, and a stock of goods, and Mr. Melaskey was engaged as a traveling sales-





*W. J. Gause*



man until 1877. He then established the third general store in Taylor, doing business under the firm name of J. Melaskey & Co., with a capital stock of \$6,000, and B. and H. Melaskey, of Anstin, owned a half interest in the establishment. Four years later this firm dissolved, and the partnership of Melaskey & Goldstone was formed, which continued five years. Since that time our subject has continued alone, carrying a general merchandise stock amounting to about \$35,000, and his sales reach \$75,000 annually. He does both a cash and credit business. Mr. Melaskey erected the second brick business house in Taylor, and at the present time owns two large business buildings. He also has city property to the amount of \$25,000, has a good cotton gin and a \$10,000 homestead.

Mr. Melaskey was married, in 1880, to Miss Sarah Pearlstone, a native of Leon county, Texas, and a daughter of I. M. Pearlstone, of Waco, this State. Our subject and wife have four children: Himan, Lulu, Annett and Harris. Both Mr. and Mrs. Melaskey are members of the Jewish congregation. The former also affiliates with the I. O. O. F., the American L. of H., Hill City Lodge, No. 241, I. O. B. B., and Maccabees, Taylor Lodge, No. 10.



**WILLIAM J. GAUSE.**—The subject of this sketch is one whose name will live in the history of Milam county, not because of the circumstance of its having been given to one of the towns of the county, but because his personal worth is such that those among whom he has so long lived, will not willingly let the story of his life be forgotten, but rather will transmit it to their descendants, and thus into perpetuity.

William J. Gause is a son of William Gause, who was a son of John Gause, the last named being a native probably of North Carolina. He was of German extraction, a descendant of one of those thrifty, peaceful people called "Pennsylvania Dutch," by whom not only the great Keystone State but others of the original thirteen colonies were settled in the early days of the Republic. John Gause is known to have served in the American Revolution, and family tradition credits him with having been a good soldier. He spent his later years in North Carolina, where he was successfully engaged in planting. William Gause, the father of William J., of this article, was born in North Carolina, in the year 1800. He grew up there, and at about the age of twenty, went to Alabama, locating in the vicinity of Montgomery, where he subsequently met, and in 1828 married Mary Ann Moseley, a daughter of Robert and Rebecca Moseley, who had moved from South Carolina to Alabama, about 1820 or 1825. For twenty years William Gause was successfully engaged in agriculture in Montgomery county, Alabama, when in the year 1840, in the prime and vigor of manhood, he died, deeply mourned by a family who profoundly loved him, and by a large number of friends to whom he had endeared himself by his useful services and genial nature. He had no civil or military record. Of him it can be recorded as the Psalmist said of another: His ways were ways of pleasantness, and all his paths were peace. He had, however, a brother, John Gause, who was a man of public note in Alabama, in an early day, being one of the framers of the first State constitution, and both being ardent Whigs in the times when the political contest was between Whigs and Democrats. After the death of her husband, the widow of William





Gause, accompanied by her two sons, William J. and Robert B., came to Texas, and settled in Harrison county. The family resided in that county until 1855, when William J. married and moved to Milam county, the mother remaining in Harrison county, where she died about 1859. The brother, Robert B., is still a resident of east Texas, living in Marion county, where he is engaged in farming.

William J. Gause, with whom this notice is mainly concerned, was born in Montgomery county, Alabama, November 26, 1829. He was reared in his native county, and, in his youth, had the advantages of a good common-school education, which he followed up, alter on, with some study of the languages and the higher mathematics. Thus qualified for the discharge of the duties of man's estate, he came to Texas in 1849, and east his lot with the people of this new State. From 1849 to 1855, he lived in Harrison county, where he had charge of his mother's estate, which he managed successfully. Marrying at the age of twenty-six, October 3, 1855, he purchased a tract of 500 acres of land, lying in the southeast part of Milam county, to which he moved a year later, and where he resided until 1872, when he bought his present place, on which he then settled, and where he has since resided. Mr. Gause has been actively engaged in farming all his life, and has met with a full measure of success. He owns 1,000 acres of land in this county, 250 acres of which are in cultivation, and all of it more or less improved, well located and well stocked. He also conducts a mercantile business in the village of Gause, and is recognized as one of the financially solid men of that locality. He is a public-spirited citizen, a man of liberal views, and also liberal with his means in fostering those enterprises

which he believes will stimulate the material interests of his town and county, and add to their social and moral advancement. He has passed life's summit, having reached that point in his career when his thoughts are largely of a reflective nature. Time and fortune have dealt kindly with him, and, his life having been well ordered, his reflections can not but be pleasant. All who know him accord him a high place in the community where he lives and pronounce his career an unqualified success.

Mr. Gause's wife, who yet abides with him, and to whose counsel and assistance he owes much of the success he has attained, as well as the most wholesome pleasures of his life, was born in Montgomery county, Alabama, October 3, 1835. Her maiden name was Lovedy A. Armstrong, she being a daughter of Martin M. and Harriet (Moseley) Armstrong, who were born, the father in Alabama and the mother in Georgia, and who were married in Alabama, about 1829.

Mr. and Mrs. Gause became the parents of seven children: Harriet A., now the wife of Captain F. M. Adams, of Milam county; Willie F., of Covington; Fannie L., wife of F. B. Bever, of Crockett, Texas; Annie, wife of Ed Sanders, of Cameron; William Stonewall, who died at the age of six; Catherine C. and Robert B.

Mr. Gause and wife and several of their children are members of the Methodist Church, of which he was Steward for a number of years, and in which he was an active worker, especially in the Sunday-schools, both in the capacity of superintendent and teacher.

Mr. Gause's life has been well ordered, and is worthy of mention in this connection. His temperate and moral habits are unexceptionable. He never indulged in the ruinous pastimes of youth, and hence he reached and



has enjoyed manhood in physical health and with a sound and practical mind. In disposition he is genial and lively, full of hope and always looking at the bright side. His devotion to his widowed mother was ever marked and is worthy of all praise. There could hardly be a better picture of filial affection, or one more radiant with love and tenderness than that of the stalwart young man, full of life and presumably with some of the waywardness of youth, eschewing all the pleasures and pastimes usually indulged in by those of his age and devoting his energies to the task of lifting from his mother the responsibilities of her widowhood. The same faithfulness and devotion have characterized his actions toward the members of his own family, he bestowing upon them all the care and earnest solicitude of an affectionate husband and father.



**T**HOMAS BRUCE, Commissioner of Precinct No. 1, Williamson county, is a member of the noted Scotch family of that name, made famous by the illustrious Robert Bruce, familiar to readers of Scottish history. In Colonial days two brothers of the name settled in the colony of Maryland, on the Potomac. Their descendants crossed the river into Virginia, where our subject's grandfather, Thomas Bruce, was born and raised. His married life was passed in Greenville district, South Carolina, where he raised a large family, and lived to a good old age. The parents of our subject, James and Annie (Ponder) Bruce, in their turn, married, and passed their entire life in that neighborhood. The father was a man of influence in his community, although he never aspired to public office, and was a

member of the Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce had ten children, as follows: Thomas, the subject of this sketch; John, of Greenville, South Carolina; William J., of Fannin county, Texas; Milton, of Haywood county, North Carolina; Joseph, of Williamson county; Naney, now Mrs. Dennis Crain, of Greenville; Mary, now Mrs. Ballinger, of Birmingham, Alabama; Caroline, deceased; Angeline, now Mrs. Ballinger, of Buncombe county, North Carolina. The mother died in 1863, and the father in 1886.

Thomas Bruce, the subject of this sketch, was born in Greenville district, South Carolina, November 25, 1836. At the age of twenty-two years he went to Atlanta, Georgia, and nine months afterward came to Texas, spending the first two years in Rusk county, after which he located in Washington county. In March, 1861, he enlisted for service in the late war, entering a company of State troops, and was stationed on the frontier. In the following May the company became a part of the regular service, Company B, Second Texas Cavalry, and was ordered to Arizona, and participated in the battle of Balverda and other engagements. After fifteen months there the regiment was ordered East, took part in the battle of Galveston, passed into Louisiana and remained there until the close of hostilities. Mr. Bruce then resumed farming in Washington county, and in the fall of 1869 came to Williamson county, locating on his present farm of 400 acres, six and one-half miles east of Georgetown. In 1892 Mr. Bruce was chosen by the Democratic party as Commissioner of Precinct No. 1, which office he still holds, giving eminent satisfaction to his constituents.

In January, 1866, in Washington county, Texas, our subject was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Russell. They had two children:



Lelia, at home; and George, a miller at Georgetown. The wife and mother died in the fall of 1869. In 1872 Mr. Bruce married Mrs. Wileman, and they have had seven children, four now living: Ida, Kate, Aleta and Alta. Mr. Bruce is a member of the Methodist Church.



**W**ILLIAM P. BIRD.—From half to three-quarters of a century ago the name of Captain John Bird was as well-known to the scattered settlers of central Texas as that of General Sam Houston was to the whole people of the Republic immediately after the battle of San Jacinto. He stood to the settlers of this section in the same relation that Houston did to all of the settlers, that is, as their friend and protector. The territory extending from the vicinity of where Belton now stands to the vicinity of Brenham he covered with his rangers, and not once but many times did his alertness, bravery, skill and daring save the people of this section from the visitations of the heartless savages of the frontier. Captain Bird has never been accorded as extended a space in the history of this locality as that to which he is entitled, and a somewhat fuller reference to him will therefore be made in this place in connection with what is said of his son, the subject of this notice.

William Bird, the father of John Bird and the grandfather of William P. of this article, was a native of England. He came to America some time during the latter part of the last century and settled in Tennessee. There his son John was born in 1795. He was reared in that State and practically on the frontier. The settlers at that date were in a constant state of warfare with the Indians, and all men able to bear arms, especially the

younger men, had abundant opportunity to become familiar with Indian customs and character. John Bird saw considerable service during those years as an Indian fighter. He also served under Jackson in the war of 1812, and in this way, by the time he had reached middle life, was well accustomed to the smell of powder and versed in the simpler arts of war. He was a man of strong physical courage, full of daring yet cool and collected in danger. He possessed individuality and a certain gift of command which easily won for him the leadership in every community and company in which he was thrown. Like most brave men he sympathized with the weak, and to excite him to action it was only necessary to tell him that some one was in distress. The spectacle of a few colonies of his fellow-countrymen struggling against a great military power like Mexico moved him as it did many another noble soul to cast his fortunes in Texas at an early day and where he willingly took up the life of a frontiersman with all its hardships and uncertainties. He came to Texas in 1829, being then married and the head of a family. He made his first stop on the Brazos river at a place then known as "Old Cow Cooper's," located in what is now Austin county. He had been there but a short time when his services were demanded in averting attacks of the Indians and running down Indian horse-thieves and affording general protection to the lives and property of the settlers. Once in the service, his skill as a leader and the confidence which his presence always inspired kept him there till his death. He was in nearly every expedition set on foot in this general section in those days, and organized at different times a number of companies for service against the Indians. He was opposed to the war of 1835-'36, by which Texas won





her independence, but when volunteers were called for he raised a company with which he entered the service, and after serving for a time in front of Santa Anna took a position by General Houston's direction near the Brazos, where he gave to the scattered settlers needed protection against the Indians. He continued in active service as a ranger up to the date of his death, and, in fact, made his life the last offering to a people whom he had so long and faithfully served. He was killed in what is now Bell county, in 1839, while at the head of a company of rangers in pursuit of Indian horse-thieves. The circumstances attending his death form one of those interesting episodes that mark the early history of Texas and one deserving a full description in this connection.

On May 26, 1839, Captain John Bird, with a company of thirty-one rangers, well mounted and equipped, left Fort Milam, at the falls of the Brazos, on a scouting expedition against the depredating bands of Indians who were constantly making forages upon the unprotected settlements around Fort Griffin, on Little river, which was at that time on the extreme frontier of Texas in that direction—the Bryants, Marlins and a few others on the Brazos being their nearest neighbors. The presence of the Indians was divined from the usual signs, and after a hurried march of some five miles upon the freshly made trail they suddenly came upon several small bands of Comanches. When discovered the Indians were evidently aware of the presence of the rangers and were engaged in collecting their forces. The rangers charged the redskins, who moved on ahead of the white men, thinking by that means to prevent pursuit. Following on for some three miles over the prairie, the rangers found themselves confronted by the same party of In-

dians increased by others who had obeyed the signal to come together, and were arrayed in battle order and ready for a fight. The Texans again charged upon them, and after a short skirmish the Indians again fled, the rangers pursuing them several miles further, but without overtaking them. Their horses being considerably jaded, the savages easily outrode them. The rangers now gave up the chase, but after retracing their steps for half a mile, and just as they were emerging from a skirt of timber on the south side of a small stream, since called Bird's creek, and at a point about seven miles northeast of the present town of Belton, they were suddenly surrounded by about forty Indians, who shot their arrows at them from every direction. The rangers made for a ravine some 600 yards in front, where there was a spring, which they succeeded in reaching despite the desperate attempts made to thwart them by the savages, who now retired to the top of a hill about 300 yards distant. A council of war was now held, when the Indians sent up three "signal smokes," which were in a like manner answered in as many different directions. In about half an hour the rangers saw a large body of mounted warriors heading in the direction of their confederates. In a few minutes the hilltop seemed to be literally alive with painted demons. Increased to about 300 in number, and led by the famous chief Buffalo Hump, the Indians now arrayed themselves in battle order, ready and eager for the fray. Advancing a few paces, the entire company halted, and they remained silent and motionless for several moments, perhaps to give the little band of Texans in the ravine an opportunity of counting the enemy; but, as one of the rangers remarked after the fight, "thar warn't no time for countin' Injins." The helpless little com-



pany of men well knew that this formidable army of red devils would soon swoop down upon them, and they were busy preparing to defend themselves against such fearful odds. Raising the Comanche war-whoop all along the line, the Indians charged down upon the men in the ravine, uttering the most unearthly yells that ever greeted the ears of mortals, and at the same time pouring a deluge of arrows. The Texans were brave and cool, and gave them a most deadly reception, causing them to retire to the hilltop, without carrying off their dead and wounded. Again the enemy charged in overwhelming numbers, this time advancing to within fifty yards of the ravine, but under the galling fire of the rangers they were once more compelled to retreat, leaving a number of their dead and wounded upon the field.

A still more vigorous attack was now made by the Indians, who were determined to rout the little garrison at all hazards. The strife became deadly. The gallant little band of rangers in the ravine fought for life, and taxed their energies to the utmost. The field was almost an open prairie, with little or nothing to shield the contending foes against the showers of arrows and leaden hail which were being incessantly sent. Victory trembled in the balance. The Indians charged repeatedly almost to the brink of the ravine, but were often forced back. The brave Captain Bird was killed early in the fight, and six other rangers were killed or wounded. The remainder, reduced to only twenty-five in number, and exhausted by the protracted contest, seemed doomed to almost certain destruction, when James Robinnett, a young German, upon whom the command now devolved, swore to his comrades that he would kill the chief in the next charge at the risk of his own life. Young Robinnett had not

long to wait before the Indians again charged down upon them, led by their chief, who was arrayed in full uniform, with an immense head-dress of buffalo horns, and mounted on a splendid American horse, presenting a most ludicrous yet formidable appearance. Taking deliberate aim, Robinnett fired at the chief, and true to his vow, succeeded in killing him! Three unsuccessful attempts were made by the Indians to rescue the body of their chief but each Indian fell who appeared near his corpse.

The fight was thus kept up till near sundown when the savages retreated to the hill, with heavy loss of men and horses. The Texans' loss was five killed, their gallant and lamented captain, a Mr. Galy, Jesse E. Nash, a Mr. Weaver, and a man named Hall who died from his wounds the next day, and they had two or three wounded. The loss of the Indians was supposed to be about one hundred.

Fearing another attack from the savages they remained in the ravine until the next morning; and, seeing no Indians in sight, the rangers mounted their horses (which had been secured near by in the ravine) and made their way back to Fort Griffin, taking with them their wounded comrades. Their story was soon told and a force of about ten men in a few days collected and repaired to the battle-ground. The bodies of the slain were too badly decomposed to be handled then, but later a large coffin was prepared and into this uncouth receptacle all that was mortal of Captain Bird and his unfortunate comrades were placed and buried on the battle-grounds.

On Bird's creek where the engagement first commenced, the bullet holes may still be seen in many of the trees. The little spring in the ravine that slacked the thirst of the besieged rangers and cooled the



fevered brows of their dying comrades still bubbles forth its sparkling waters as on that memorable day, murmuring an eternal requiem to the memory of the heroes who so nobly perished to protect their homes and loved ones. The battle-ground is now enclosed in a farm and all that marks the scene of this desperate conflict is a clump of alamo blanco trees, living monuments to the memory of the fallen heroes.

Captain Bird left surviving him a widow and four children. His widow, whose maiden name was Sarah Denton, was a daughter of Benjamin Denton, a native of Tennessee, where she was born about 1800. She died in Burleson county, in 1870. The eldest child of Captain Bird was a daughter, Nancy J., who was six times married, and the mother of a large number of children, and who is now deceased. His eldest son was William P., whose name heads this sketch. The two younger children were Thomas J. and Wincey, the former a son and the latter a daughter, both twice married and the parents of a number of children. Thomas is still living, being a resident of Burleson county, and the daughter is deceased.

William P. Bird, the eldest son of this pioneer family and one of the oldest settlers now living in Burleson county was born in Perry county, Tennessee, October 28, 1819. He was about ten years old when his parents came to Texas. He received scarcely any education as there were no schools in Texas when he was a boy. His time was chiefly occupied after he reached his twelfth year in looking after his father's cattle over the range. Captain Bird soon after coming to Texas, having contracted to care for a large number of cattle on the shares. Young William made an effort to enter the Texas army for service against Santa Anna, but

there was no organization in reach except that of his father, which his father refused to let him enter as his services were needed at home.

In 1843 Mr. Bird married Miss Callie R. Powell, a daughter of John and Celia Powell, then residing in Austin county, this State. Mrs. Bird's parents moved from Ohio to Texas in 1833. She was born in Ohio and was one of six children.

Mr. Bird settled in Burleson county in 1846 and has resided here since that date. He has been engaged in farming and stock-raising all his life and has met with moderate success. He has given his attention entirely to his own interests, never having concerned himself with public matters nor held any public offices. He and his wife have raised a family of eight children, two sons and six daughters, all of whom were married and all but two of whom are living. His eldest, Elizabeth, was married to George Shephard and is now deceased; Melissa is the widow of Frank Zarr, of Temple, Texas; Isaac, died in Burleson county, leaving no children; Sallie is the wife of Jasper Haney; John; Wincey is the wife of J. M. Haddox; Laura is the wife of Charles Morgan; and Dollie is the wife of C. P. Hall,—the last five being residents of Burleson county.

The religious connection of the family is with the Baptist Church. In politics Mr. Bird formerly voted with the Democratic party but in recent years he has espoused the cause of the Populists.



JOHN E. CAMPBELL, of Travis county, Texas, is of Scotch-Irish descent, and the family have resided in this country for about 200 years. His parents, John and



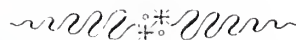


Sarah (Kimbrow) Campbell, were natives, respectively, of east Tennessee and North Carolina. His father was born in October, 1781, and his mother in 1799. They were married in 1814, and reared a family of ten children, three now living: Alexander T., of Maury county, Tennessee; Amy C., now Mrs. Thomas White, and a resident of the old homestead in that county; and John E., of Travis county, Texas. The father died in Maury county, Tennessee, in 1851, and the mother in 1862.

John E. Campbell, subject of this sketch, was born March 28, 1827, and raised in Tennessee, and emigrated to Texas in 1851, locating in Travis county. After settling in this county he taught school one year, and then came to his present place, four miles southeast of Austin, on the Fredericksburg road. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the late war in Company G, Sixteenth Texas Infantry, and served until the close of the struggle in the Trans-Mississippi Department. Mr. Campbell participated in the battles of Milliken's Bend, Red river expedition, Mansfield, Pleasant Hill and Jenkins' Ferry. He votes with the Democratic party, and is a member of the Masonic order.

April 28, 1853, in Travis county, our subject was united in marriage with Lavina C. Davidson, born in 1833, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of Andrew M. and Elizabeth M. Davidson. Mrs. Campbell came with her parents to Travis county, Texas, when a child. To this union were born two children. The eldest, Maggie, married Robert E. White, Sheriff of Travis county, and they had six children,—Della C., John Dudley, Thomas B., C. C., J. C., and Frank (deceased). The wife and mother died in 1888. The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell was a son, who died in infancy.

Mrs. Campbell departed this life a short time before the death of her youngest child, November 17, 1857, in Bastrop county, to which place the family had removed for a short time.



**J**OHN PETERSON, a prosperous citizen of the United States by adoption, is a native of Sweden, born July 16, 1860. He grew to manhood in his own country, and had the benefit of the superior educational advantages offered there. His father, M. P. Peterson, was born also in Sweden in 1827, and followed farming. He was united in marriage with Magdalena Swenson, a sister of August Swenson, of Hutto, Williamson county, and to them were born six children: John; Amelia, wife of George Fluor; Hilda; Amanda, wife of Henry Anquist; Carl, and Clans.

Allured by the tales of plenty and good fortune attending his countrymen in the far West, John Peterson determined to leave his home and friends and native land and cross the sea in search of his share of the wealth abounding there. He shipped from Guttenberg in 1881, bound for New York via Hull, landing on this shore April 24. He came directly to Austin, and the following day to Williamson county, where he secured employment with his uncle, who had supplied him with his passage money to America. After he had paid this debt he left the farm and spent two years in Austin in the employ of S. T. Scott. By economy he saved during that time sufficient means to bring his father's family to America.

In December, 1889, he contracted for a choice piece of black land containing 141 acres. Here he resides, and has under culti-





James M. Lyly  
R. S. Porter



vation 110 acres. He produced a large cotton crop in 1892, and, holding a portion, secured the benefit of the high prices prevailing in the fall of that year.

Mr. Peterson was united in marriage, in June, 1892, to Miss Ellen Blomquist, a daughter of C. M. Blomquist. Both are worthy members of the Lutheran Church, and enjoy the regard of a wide circle of acquaintances.



**R**S. PORTER.—It is rarely the case that one expects to find much romance in the lives of successful business men, especially as it is known that the elements that enter into and lead them step by step through the circuitous paths of toil and oftentimes deprivation, toward the attainment of financial success, are plain, hard, common-sense, energy, perseverance and determination. Yet to go over the life of the subject of this sketch one can not fail to detect the romance underlying it and to feel that he is perusing a work of fiction rather than the career of a practical man of business.

Raymond S. Porter was born in Hall county, Georgia, June 22, 1836. His parents were Benjamin F. Porter and Delaney Scott Bell, both of whom were also natives of Georgia, the father being a planter and merchant of some means. Raymond S. was reared in his native county, where he attended the local schools up to his sixteenth year. At that age he ran away from home and then began that wild life of adventure alluded to above. The outlines of this portion of his career can not be better given than in the language in which he narrated it to the writer. Questioned as to his early life he said:

“My boyhood until I was sixteen was passed pleasantly enough on my father’s farm, and there was no reason for the rash step I took when I ran away except a desire to see the world. It was in the spring of 1852 that I decided to take a trip to the then much-talked-of gold fields of California. Hastily gathering up a handful of clothing, I stole out one day and sallied forth with heart brave enough, as I thought, to conquer a world. I acknowledge now that my ignorance of what lay before me was one of the chief sources of my courage. I had heard only of the romantic side of life in the “Far West;” I was now to learn some of its hardships and disappointments.

“On leaving home I went direct to Atlanta, where I secured transportation to New Orleans, at which place I took passage on a steamer bound for San Francisco, California. Our route lay by way of Havana, Aspinwall, and Panama and thence round by the west coast of Mexico, where we touched at various ports, reaching San Francisco after a two months’ voyage, travel then by steamer being much slower than now and considerable time being consumed on our trip by the stops we made. Once in the land of gold I set off immediately for the ‘diggings,’ going out by way of Sacramento and Marysville toward the Yuba river country and thence to Dry creek, where I was soon fully initiated into the business. I mined in that locality for three years, mostly on Yuba river. It was a wild, desultory, exciting sort of a life, those three years that I spent on the Yuba river. I do not mean that it was immoral or unlawful; it was just such a life as the average miner led in those days,—inevitable because of the condition of things around. The literature of the country had been flooded during the last quarter of a century with de-





scriptive articles, personal recollections, incidents of travel, poems and novels, all seeking to portray some phase of the miner's life in California during the 'flush times' there, but no one really knows what that life was or ever can know except the miner himself.

"In the meantime, while I was working away on the Yuba river, one of those periodic crazes which sweep over mining camps broke out and a grand rush was made for the Gila river country of Arizona, where everybody was reported to be getting rich. I went along with the rest, but soon found after reaching the new 'field' that there was nothing in it.

"I went back into northern California and mined for a while in Shasta county, when I determined to make a trip up the Pacific coast. A party of twenty-two was organized and we worked our way up the coast through the Territories of Oregon and Washington and into British Columbia. There we heard of promising fields in Alaska. This was in 1859, and Alaska at that time was one of those countries of which but very little had been heard and nothing practically was known. But I decided to see it and try my luck in the newly found mines there. Joining three or four others we struck out for the land of the 'Midnight Sun.' Our trip was without venture save such as made up our everyday life, to detail which now would consume too much time. We reached the 'gold fields' in due time, and found to our chagrin that they were covered with from four to six feet of snow, which would probably lie on the ground for months. Our 'grub' supply was limited, and we were a long way from where more could be had; so we thought it prudent to abandon the enterprise and return south.

"I went direct to San Francisco, where,

having heard of the outbreak of the Civil war between the North and South, I undertook to join the Confederate army; but Union sympathizers were in authority and I could do nothing. I had formed the acquaintance of a Kentuckian named T. J. Sears and a Georgian named Baldy Starks in San Francisco, and I induced them to accompany me back to Washington Territory, whither we went by the usual route of travel, making our first stop at the Dalles on Columbia river. There we heard of the Nez Perces mines then but recently discovered, to which we immediately made our way and staked off claims. We remained there during the winter, mining a little as we could.

"By the following spring I had determined to return to the States and enter the Confederate army. In May or June a company was made up including Sears, Starks, myself and others, and taking the old Nez Perces trail we crossed the Bitter Root mountains, in northern Idaho, the Rockies in western Montana and made our way on foot and with pack-horses to old Fort Benton, Montana, then the head of navigation on the Missouri river. Here the horses were disposed of to Indians and traders and a good-sized flat-boat was constructed, on which thirteen of us started down the river for civilization.

"That trip down the Missouri I have good reason to remember, for not only was it marked by hardships unusual even in those days of trial, but I came near losing my scalp on two or three occasions at the hands of the redskins, who then roamed over the entire Northwest and were practically without restraint in their pillaging and murderous operations. Our first encounter with these was after we got about twenty miles out of the Bad Lands. We were hailed one day by a band of Indians in the Piegan language,



there being an old trapper in our number who understood that language. We pulled toward the shore, but did not intend to land until we saw two white men who had been stripped, their skillscutted and ten or twelve warriors around them in positions of hostile demonstration. We then went over hoping to rescue the white men. We found that there were thirty or thirty-five of the redskins when we touched shore, and that they were Assinaboins, who were known to be hostile. It became a problem then to get away with our hides whole. The Indians began immediately to pile into our boat and throw out the oars, take our fire-arms and show signs of fight, but our old trapper said they were only bluffing and urged us to offer no resistance further than was necessary to keep possession of our arms. We knew that we could 'lick' them, but we could not hope to get away with all of them, and those that might escape would send runners ahead and notify all the Indians down the river, and we would never get out in the world. We finally began to bribe them with tobacco, and while they were interested with this we gradually pushed away from the shore, and working out into the current we soon got beyond reach. From that day on we were shot at every day by straggling bands, some of whom made vigorous attacks, but we kept well out from shore and managed by skillful dodging and one kind of a ruse and another to escape without injury.

"After we got pretty well down the river, we stopped one day at Fort Randall to get some supplies, and there found a Sioux chief who had got separated from his tribe. The agent induced us to take him on board and convey him down the river to his village. We did so, taking him some 300 or 400 miles. When we reached his village he called his braves around him, some 2,000 or more

in number, and made them a speech in which he told them how we had befriended him, and instructed them that they should show us every favor possible. We were taken in and feasted for two days and nights, having a royal time, after which we resumed our journey, which was completed to Council Bluffs without further incident worth mention.

"At Council Bluffs our party disbanded, Sears, Starks and myself taking steamer for St. Louis, whence we went to Cincinnati, down to Louisville and thence to Bowling Green, Kentucky. There Sears got married and Starks and I bought a horse apiece and joined a squad of Confederate soldiers. These happened to be part of Morgan's men who were then in Kentucky. I was with them in their subsequent operations in that State and took part also in the celebrated raid into Indiana and Ohio. I participated in all the extravagant, ludicrous, novel and thrilling experiences of that raid, but will here mention only what befell me personally. I was captured with the main body of the army in Ohio and after confinement at Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Chicago, being nearly a year in Camp Douglas at the last named place, I escaped early in the spring of 1865, and with the aid of Southern sympathizers made my way back South.

"Again in the vicinity of Bowling Green, Kentucky, I secured a horse and saddle and started out by the 'Grapevine route' to reach my command, or the remnant of it, which was then near Salt Works, Virginia. On the way I fell in with Major Jones, who had been sent back to organize what guerrilla bands he could find and conduct them over into Virginia. A company of twenty-two of us under his leadership were making our way through hostile lines, fighting from point to



point, when at a place between Columbia and Tennessee river we met some of Lee's men, who told us that Lee had surrendered. We pushed on intending to join Johnston's army in North Carolina, but in a few days more we met some of Johnston's men, who informed us that Johnston had also surrendered. We held an informal meeting, at which it was resolved that we would never surrender, and an independent organization was immediately effected for the purpose of fighting our way through to Mexico. We moved slowly and cautiously through the mountains of eastern Kentucky and Tennessee, for we were surrounded on all sides by Federal soldiers and sympathizers, until we reached Obie's river near the Kentucky and Tennessee State line, where on June 22, 1865, we had a sharp fight. We were in close quarters, but made our escape. Finally, however, it became evident that if we continued as we then were we would all be killed or captured, so that we decided to separate, each man to look out for himself. My horse had been shot from under me a few days previously and I was afoot. In this condition I made my way, tramping part of the time and stealing an occasional ride on a freight train, to Chattanooga. Armed with a bogus parol which Major Jones had furnished me, I went to the Provost Marshal at Chattanooga and secured transportation home to Georgia. I used the transportation only to Marietta, where I stopped off and spent a few weeks with my grandparents. I reached my father's house in August, 1865.

"The following year I made a crop, which I turned over in the fall to my father, and taking a clerkship in a store I remained there until June 8, 1867, when I started for Texas. I came to this State for the purpose of settling down and doing something for myself, and I was therefore in no hurry to pitch my

tent. After prospecting for several weeks I finally took up my residence at Davilla, this county, where I got work in a store, and there began the career with which the people of this county are more or less familiar."

This career, to which Mr. Porter refers, is an exceedingly honorable one, and a brief mention of it properly belongs to this biography. After clerking for a time at Davilla he saved enough from his earnings to engage in business for himself, which he did at that place in the fall of 1871. He soon built up a splendid trade; and when the town of Taylor in Williamson county was started in 1876 he went there and opened another house, being one of the first merchants there and the first one who ever erected a business house in that place. He conducted these two establishments until 1880, when he sold out his business at Taylor, and, moving his Davilla house to Cameron, there started his present business.

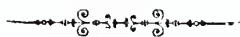
The mercantile house of R. S. Porter at Cameron is a well-known establishment in Milam and adjoining counties. It enjoys the reputation of being one of the most solid concerns of that locality. Mr. Porter does a business varying from \$65,000 to \$75,000 a year, and has always done a uniformly large and successful business. In the last twenty-two years he has sold many thousands of dollars' worth of goods, having bought, as his books show, nearly \$1,500,000 worth from one firm. His funds are mostly invested in his business, but he owns some land and town property. Quiet and unassuming in manner, straightforward in his business methods, prompt in meeting his obligations, economical in expenditures and diligent in all things, his success has come to him as naturally, as easily and imperceptibly as the years have flown by.





In 1872 Mr. Porter married Miss Susan Howlett, a daughter of James Howlett, of Milam county. This lady died not long afterward, leaving no issue. He married again in 1875, Miss Fannie C. Martin, daughter of Dr. Ed A. Martin, an old citizen of Milam county, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. To this union have been born three children: Ed Franklin, William Martin and Raymond Beanford.

Mr. Porter is a Knight Templar Mason and a member of the Methodist Church, to which latter his wife also belongs.



**CRAWFORD AND CRAWFORD**, proprietors of the Milam County Bank, Cameron, Milam county, Texas.—With the exception of the railroads probably no single industrial or financial factor has contributed so largely to the advancement of the material interests of Milam county, and particularly to the commercial interests of the town of Cameron, as the Milam County Bank, owned and operated by Messrs. Crawford & Crawford, brief biographical mention of whom, together with a sketch of the bank, is here given.

This institution was founded ten years ago, or, speaking by date, in 1883. It was the conception of Wilbur F. Crawford, then as now senior member of the firm of Crawford & Crawford. Mr. Crawford is a Maine man and made his advent into Texas in 1882, as a representative of the general Government. He had had no previous experience as a banker, but being a shrewd man of affairs he was not long in seeing the advantages offered by several towns in the State for banking business, nor was he long in deciding to take up operations in that direction. A careful

canvass of the situation resulted in the selection of Cameron as the place for the enterprise. He gathered together all of his own funds, and enlisting the interest of his brother, Henry T., who was then at Bloomington, Illinois, they launched the Milam County Bank, as stated, in 1883, on a capital of \$30,000, furnished by themselves. The conditions were favorable, as had been believed, and the enterprise started off well. The deposits for the first year amounted to about \$20,000, and the net earnings to \$2,000. Each year brought increased prosperity, the business growing at a steady pace, until 1888, when the bank entered on a period of growth not theretofore known, and which fortunately continues to this time. Its working capital has been increased to \$125,000, its average deposits have risen to \$100,000, while its earnings have been correspondingly satisfactory. From a small loan and discount business of a local nature it has come to handle a large volume of general commercial transactions, and has facilities and equipments for carrying on safely and expeditiously all kinds of legitimate banking. It numbers among its patrons a majority of the leading business men of Cameron, is the specially designated depository of valuable public and trust funds, and has on its list of correspondents such well known and conservative institutions as the following: The Continental National Bank of St. Louis, in which Messrs. Crawford & Crawford are stock-holders, the First National Bank of New York City, the Southern National Bank of New Orleans, the Gardner Savings Institution and the Maine Trust and Savings Company of Gardiner, Maine, Ball, Hutchings & Co. of Galveston, the First National Bank of Houston, the City National Bank of Dallas and the Austin National



Bank of Austin. The bank is owned exclusively by Messrs. Crawford & Crawford, in addition to which they own a majority of the stock of the First National Bank of Lagrange, this State, of which they were the organizers, Wilbur F. being a member of its board of directors. They also own a controlling interest in the Cameron Cotton Oil Mills, started in April, 1892, on a capital of \$40,000, and an interest in the Riverside Brick Works, which last represents an investment of \$15,000. During the past ten years the firm of Crawford & Crawford, in addition to their banking business, have placed over a half million dollars in real-estate loans in Milam county, the bulk of which has gone to buy lands and improve homesteads and otherwise add to the prosperity and comfort of the community and to the taxable wealth of the county. The growth of this business has been rapid, astonishing to many and most gratifying to those who have had it in charge. These gentlemen, although coming to Texas within the past ten years, have made a vast deal more history in that time than many who have resided here a life-time; and in view of this the following personal mention of them is warranted in this connection.

Wilbur F., Henry T. and Frank M. Crawford were born in the city of Brunswick, Maine, in 1852, 1858 and 1862, respectively. They were reared in their native place, and in the schools of that place and of that vicinity received their education. Their father, the Rev. George C. Crawford, a prominent Methodist minister, was for years connected as trustee with the Maine Wesleyan Seminary at Kent's Hill, Maine, and with Bowdoin College at Brunswick, Maine, and, being himself a gentleman of exceptional attainments, as a scholar, was enabled to give his sons the advantages of two of the best schools

of the State, and, what was of more moment to them, to "enter with spirit and understanding" into the matter of their education and proper training for the discharge of the duties of manhood. In this labor he was ably assisted by a devoted wife and mother,—one who was qualified by her gifts of mind and heart and graces of person to arouse in her sons the best impulses of their nature and to direct them in a way to make them count for most in the after struggles of life.

In 1880 the three brothers came West and for a time were residents of Bloomington, Illinois, where Henry T. and Frank M. were engaged in the newspaper business. In 1882, as already noted, Wilbur F. came to Texas and laid the foundation of their interests here. The same year, but later, Henry T. came. He died at Cameron in 1885, at which date his place in the bank was taken by Frank M., who took up his residence at Cameron for that purpose.

Of the career of these gentlemen in Texas, outside of what has been given in connection with their business interests, but little more need be said than that as citizens they have interested themselves in all matters pertaining to their town and county—have been foremost, in fact, in calling attention to the resources of this locality and have unhesitatingly put their money into every enterprise that has given promise of legitimate private returns or lasting public good. They have confidence in Texas and pride and confidence in their own town and county. They believe in the future of the State and in the grand march to that future they desire to see their town and county assume the place that belongs to them.

They are Republicans in politics, active in State and national affairs, and generally make their influence felt. Wilbur F. has



been a delegate to every State convention held since he came to Texas. He was also a delegate to the national conventions of 1884, 1888 and 1892.

Wilbur F. and Frank M. are members of the Masonic fraternity, the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, the Elks and Red Men, as was also their brother, Henry T., to each of which they accord a generous support as well as to all benevolent purposes.



**J**UDGE RICHARD S. WALKER, deceased.—Richard Sheekle Walker was a native of Kentucky, born in Barren county in 1824. His early educational advantages were ample and propitious. He graduated in 1842, at Centenary College, Jackson, Louisiana, and in 1844, when but twenty years old, received his diploma from the law department of Transylvania University at Lexington, Kentucky, and his license to practice at the bar of that State. Returning to Jackson, Louisiana, which was then his home, he devoted one year to the study of the civil law preparatory to practice in the Louisiana courts; but, Texas having just been admitted to the Union, his aspirations seized on its prospects and he determined to cast his fortunes with the bar of this new State, and located at San Augustine, in February, 1846, where he began his long and distinguished professional career.

In the summer of 1848 he married Miss Eliza J. Clark, a daughter of Judge Amos Clark of Nacogdoches, and immediately afterward moved to that place, where he formed a partnership with his father-in-law. With endowments of a high order, combined with the advantages of his eminent association, his

rise at the bar was rapid and confirmed, and in 1848 he was appointed District Attorney, and was re-elected to the same office at each successive term during a period of nearly eight years. In 1857 he formed a co-partnership with Judge George F. Moore, afterward Chief Justice of the State, and continued this connection until he was elected to the District Bench in 1880. During this association he was appointed, in connection with his partner, Reporter of the Decisions of the Supreme Court, and they prepared the Twenty-second, Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth of the Texas Reports, which were made statutory models for subsequent issues. In 1866 he reported alone the Twenty-fifth volume, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of that year, in which he took an active part in framing the constitution, which would at the same time comply with the exigencies of the situation and assert the rights and dignity of the State. In 1873 he was appointed by Governor Coke to the Judgeship of his former judicial district, to which, after the expiration of the term of his appointment, he was elected by the people. In 1879 he was appointed a member of the Commission of Appeals, which position he held until 1890, when he resigned on account of ill-health. His death occurred May 24, 1892.

As a lawyer Judge Walker's career was eminent and brilliant. The practice of the firms of Clark & Walker and of Moore & Walker, both in Federal and State courts, was large and extensive, and they were employed in many important cases in both the civil and criminal branches of jurisprudence. He held the position of District Judge until 1865, when he was removed by military authority as an impediment to reconstruction. Then he continued alone with increas-

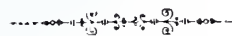




ing reputation until his professional abilities and pure character caused him to be called into service in a high judicial capacity, and the features which he was instrumental in imparting to the jurisprudence of the State, both as a lawyer and judge, were important and varied. He devoted all of his physical and mental vigor to his profession, and consequently his knowledge of law was profound and comprehensive. He was endowed with a high order of talent, and his intellectual powers were trained and whetted in a severe school of discipline and application. His capacity for intellectual labor was limited only by his physical endurance, and he possessed the highest of all intellectual traits, and that to which Sir Isaac Newton attributed the excellence of his mental qualities, the power of concentrating his thought, the faculty of close attention and patient thinking. His mind was vigorous and active; its researches rich and varied and constantly at his command. His perceptions were singularly prompt and acute, and his ripened judgment readily separated the practical from that which was speculative, while his sound reason and accurate association verified his knowledge. He was a man of exceedingly amiable character and free from any overwrought superficial sternness of judicial ethics. His manners were refined by a complacency and polish, which indicated a heart full of kindness and generous impulses. His literary attainments were likewise of a high order. The versatility of his genius enabled him to cultivate a polished style of literary composition, rarely found in one whose thoughts were clothed in the starched and staid habit of legal diction. He had a fine classical taste and copious command of language, and his style was chaste, unique and spirited. In all the relations of life he main-

tained the same high standard of excellence, and his death was mourned as a genuine public loss.

He had but three children, two sons and a daughter. His eldest son, John C. Walker, is a practicing lawyer of Galveston, while his second son, Amos Clark Walker, is a leading physician of Rockdale, Milan county, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. The daughter, Jennie May, was married to Captain J. P. Alvey, of the mercantile house of Finley & Co., New Orleans, and died in 1880, at Austin, this State.



JAMES H. TAYLOR, a son of McClem Taylor, whose history appears in the sketch of W. M. Taylor herein, was born in Martin county, North Carolina, October 22, 1830. His education, though very limited, was received in three States, because of successive moves of his father during our subject's school age. He came to Texas in 1856, two years in advance of the other members of the family. Being reared on the farm he of course knew but little of other callings, and engaged in it in this State, and was so employed until the opening of the late war.

In 1862 Mr. Taylor joined Company F, Eighth Texas Infantry, under Colonel Young, and participated in all the feasts, famines, forced marches and hard-fought battles incident to a two-years' campaign, Mansfield, Pleasant Hill and Jenkins' Ferry being among the engagements. The command disbanded at Hempstead, in May, 1865, and Mr. Taylor again sought Milan county and the farm. In 1866 he bought a small tract of land containing 150 acres on the south side of Pond creek, now owned by Mr. Car-





*A. C. Goodwin*



*B. A. Goodwin*





gill. Residing there until 1869, he bought a tract on the Brazos river, to which he moved in 1870. Ten years later he settled where he now lives, in the same locality. Here he owns 400 acres of fine farming land, and with his large family of sons is cultivating 250 acres. He conducts a considerable stock interest in addition to the farm, having leased a large pasture in which he keeps cattle. His average cotton crop is about seventy-five bales per year, and his grain and stock products are in proportion.

In 1859 Mr. Taylor married Sarah, daughter of William Pruitt, an Alabama farmer and carpenter, who came to Texas about 1856. Mrs. Taylor was born in Alabama, in 1840. She and her husband are the parents of the following children: William McClem, who married Josie Smiley, who is now deceased; Patrick Henry; Maggie, now deceased, who was the wife of John Whitehurst; James; Joshua; John G.; Napoleon; Thomas B.; Ida; Dock; Alexander, deceased; Richard; and "Boy," who is yet unnamed.

Mr. Taylor is a Jeffersonian Democrat, but does not take much interest in political matters. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity at Rosebud, and of the Missionary Baptist Church at Caddo.



**B**A. GOODWIN.—Early in 1864, while the late Civil war was still raging in the older Southern States and many good citizens of that section who were exempt by age or physical infirmities from military service were seeking refuge from their persecutors in this more favored section, there arrived in Milan county a caravan, travel-worn, weather-stained and exhausted in resources, having made its way overland from

Columbia county, Arkansas, and settled in the eastern part of this county on Little river, where it subsequently went into permanent quarters. The head of this caravan was Thelston A. Goodwin, who had suffered severely for the cause of the South and who, though opposed on principle to secession, rendered good service to the movement in its earlier stages in the State whence he came.

Thelston A. Goodwin was born in Putnam county, Georgia, June 29, 1818, and was reared and was married the first time in that State, and moved some time in the "40s" to Macon county, Mississippi, and later to Talladega county, Alabama, and thence to Columbia county, Arkansas, where he was for a number of years engaged successfully in farming. By industry and good management he succeeded at the opening of the late war in accumulating a considerable amount of property, which, however, was soon swept away by the ravages of that great conflict, and at the time of his removal to this State his possessions consisted of only a few hundred dollars, invested mostly in stock, wagons and household effects, with a few dollars in cash left over. He invested his cash in 400 acres of land lying on Little river, on which he took up his residence and where he soon resumed agricultural pursuits, which he followed successfully there for some years. Of modest demeanor, quiet, unassuming ways, he spent his time mainly about his home and devoted his attention to his personal interests. While a resident of Arkansas he had represented his county a number of terms in the State Legislature and was otherwise prominent in local affairs. Of good intelligence and pleasant social qualities he never lacked friends wherever he lived, and always succeeded in impressing himself favorably on those with whom he was associ-





ated. He came of old American stock, being a son of William W. Goodwin, an early settler of Georgia who moved into the "Empire State of the South" in Indian times and helped to fell the forests and lay the foundation of that great commonwealth.

The second wife of Thelston A. Goodwin bore the maiden name of Mary Elizabeth Avriett, and she was born in Alabama, February 8, 1828. They were married in Talladega county, Alabama, December 24, 1844, and were the parents of six children, two of whom died in infancy, the remainder reaching maturity and one dying since. The eldest, Roxana, was married to Hon. J. M. McKinney and died, in Milam county, in 1874; the second, William W., is a farmer living in Lamar county, this State; the next, Benjamin A., is the subject of this notice; and the youngest, Sarah, is the widow of E. A. Ford and lives in Milam county. The mother died June 17, 1856, in Talladega county, Alabama.

Benjamin A. Goodwin was born in Talladega county, Alabama, January 7, 1850, and was reared in Alabama, Arkansas and Texas, being a lad of fourteen when his parents moved to this State. His early years were marked only by such experiences as fall to the lot of the average farm boy. Of education he got but little, a few months attendance at the schools and one term at Port Sullivan Academy and a term at Salado, Bell county, being all of the advantages of this nature which he enjoyed. Having been brought up on the farm he naturally took to farming pursuits, and when the time arrived for him to step out and meet the current of life for himself he married and settled on a farm now occupied by his brother-in-law, Hon. J. M. McKinney, on Jones prairie, this county, where he entered actively and energetically on the

business of his life. In 1878 he purchased 143 acres of his present place, to which he moved the following year and has since continued zealously in the prosecution of his interests. His success is probably best attested by the simple statement that he now owns 1,200 acres of splendid black land lying in one of the richest agricultural sections of the county, which when it came into his possession was practically unimproved, but all of which is now under fence and a reasonable portion of it under plow. About 1885, in addition to farming, Mr. Goodwin began to feed beef cattle, and each year since he has turned out regularly for the market from 250 to 500 head. Liberal, active, earnest and intelligent, Mr. Goodwin pursues his own business successfully, and on all proper occasions lends his support to all enterprises looking to the welfare of the community in which he resides.

He is a Democrat "in whom there is neither variableness nor shadow of turning," and has been frequently importuned to run for office, but has never offered himself for any public position. He has been a Mason since he was twenty-two years old, zealous in the support of the principles of that order and especially in its broad and benevolent purposes.

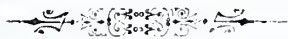
January 10, 1872, Mr. Goodwin married Miss Amanda Oliver, a daughter of James D. and Ava Oliver, who were natives of North Carolina. The father was born December 20, 1817, and the mother, whose maiden name was Ava Page, September 28, 1825. The parents were married April 1, 1851, in their native State by the Rev. William Ayres. They moved to Texas and settled in Hopkins county in the early '50s, where the mother died March 15, 1857. The father died in June, 1862, in the Confederate serv-



ice at Enterprise, Mississippi. He was twice married, marrying first, on October 19, 1841, Miss Nancy Floyd, of North Carolina. The children of this union were: Claudius C., who was born September 23, 1843, and is now a resident of Alexander, Erath county, Texas; Augustus P., who was born November 27, 1844, and is a resident of Rayner, where he is clerk of the District Court of Stonewall county, Texas; Louisa M., who was born January 10, 1847, and is the wife of Calvin C. White, of Milam county, a sketch of whom appears in this work.

The children of James D. and Ava Oliver were: Amanda Katherine, who was born March 13, 1855, and is the wife of B. A. Goodwin, of this article; and Virginia Ann, who was born January 11, 1857, and is the wife of W. H. Liner, of Hopkins county, Texas. Mrs. Goodwin was born in Hopkins county, this State.

Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin have had one child, a daughter, Luella, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin belong to the Baptist Church, holding a membership in the church at Clarkson, Milam county. Mr. Goodwin was a member of the Advisory Council of the World's Congress Auxiliary on Farm Culture and Cereal Industry, and a member of the World's Agricultural Congresses, which met at Chicago in October, 1893.



**R**W. INSALL, a successful farmer of Williamson county, is a son of Thomas and Mary (Holdship) Insall. The father was born in Yorkshire, England, and at the age of twenty-five years emigrated to the United States. For a number of years he was engaged in the mercantile business on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers,

using a keel-boat for the purpose, and while following that occupation met our subject's mother at a point about where the city of Bayou Sara, Louisiana, now stands, where they were married in 1809. She was born in Pennsylvania, where her parents were among the early pioneers. Her father was of Irish and her mother of Dutch descent. After marriage Mr. Insall purchased a plantation on Bayou Boeuf, where he died in 1848, and his wife in 1858. They were the parents of ten children, namely: Thomas, Richard and Martha, deceased; Mary, widow of a Mr. Callahan, and a resident of Mineral City, Texas; Charlotte, widow of a Mr. Shaw, of Columbus, this State; John, deceased; Henry, deceased; R. W., our subject; Joseph, who resides with his brother, R. W.; and Alzira, deceased. Mr. Insall, Sr., was a Democrat in his political views and a member of the Episcopal Church. He held a parish office for many years corresponding with the County Commissioner's office of this State.

R. W. Insall was born in St. Landry parish, Louisiana, August 30, 1831. In 1848 he visited relatives in Texas, and in February, 1850, returned to this State, where he has ever since made his home. During the first four years he was located in Colorado county and was engaged in the saddlers' trade, which he had learned in Louisiana. He then became a resident of DeWitt county, where he remained until 1856, and in that year returned to Colorado county. Another period was spent in DeWitt county with his wife's people, after which he went again to Colorado county. In 1873 Mr. Insall came to his present location, where he now owns 200 acres of land, 150 acres under a fine state of cultivation. The place is located one mile north of Leander. In addition to this



farm he also owns timber and pasture land.

Mr. Insall was married in DeWitt county, October 12, 1854, to Sarah, a daughter of Norman Woods, who was captured by the Mexicans at the time of Dawson's defeat, and died in prison at Perote. Our subject and wife have had eleven children, viz.: Norman, of Leander, this county; Robert, also of this city; Mary, wife of W. K. Humble, of Leander; Alice, wife of Edward McClure, of Coleman county, Texas; Ellen, now Mrs. John M. McDaniel, of Burnet county; Ida, wife of W. T. Jennings, of Leander; Herbert, Lillie, Eric, Eugene and Hugh at home. In his political relations Mr. Insall votes with the Democratic party, and, fraternally, is a Master Mason.



**A**ARON SEYMOUR, a farmer of Williamson county, is a son of G. W. and Sarah (Utieto) Seymour, of English and Irish descent. Isaac Seymour came to America before the Revolutionary war and located in Virginia. At the opening of that struggle he entered the Continental army. Three other brothers of this family came to America as British soldiers; two were captured in the first fight and the other deserted. The three then entered the American army. The father of our subject was born, reared and married in Virginia, subsequently moved to Knox county, Tennessee, later to Buchanan county, Missouri, and about twenty-five years later located in Georgetown, Williamson county, Texas, but in 1861 removed to Leavenworth county, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Seymour were the parents of four children: Amanda, wife of Sidney Richardson, of High Prairie, Leavenworth county, Kansas; John S., of Buchanan

county, Missouri; Thomas Madison, of St. Joseph, that State; and Aaron, our subject. The mother died when the youngest child was four years of age, and the father afterward married a Mrs. Russell. Both still reside in Leavenworth county, Kansas. Mr. Seymour was formerly engaged in farming, but is now a merchant of Boling.

Aaron Seymour was born in Knox county, Tennessee, August 29, 1839. After his mother's death he made his home with Thomas Dittimore, a friend of his father, until twelve years of age, when he came with his father to Texas. In 1851 he went to Kansas, but two years later returned to this State. Our subject then entered Strahorn's cavalry company, afterward Company D, Thirtieth Texas Regiment, under Colonel Gurly, was appointed Second Sergeant, and served in the Trans-Mississippi department. He participated in the battles of Roseville, Prairie de Han, Poison Springs, Saline river and Cabin creek. After the close of the struggle he returned to Williamson county, since which time he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He first located six miles north of Georgetown; eleven years later removed to a farm seven miles northeast of that place; five years later went to Corn Hill, and in 1890 purchased his present farm of 550 acres, which is located twenty miles northwest of Georgetown, and 140 acres of which are cultivated. In addition to his farming he also gives considerable attention to stock-raising.

Mr. Seymour was married in Williamson county, in 1859, to Sarah E. Donnell. They have had ten children: Martha V., wife of Dr. W. P. Masterson, of Corn Hill; America O., wife of V. B. Brewster, also of that place; Florrie W., at home; Apton A., deceased; Marvin H., Barnett E., Myrtle M.,





Thomas S., at home; and James and Tennessee, deceased. Mr. Seymour votes with the People's party, and is a member of the I. O. O. F. He has been Steward and Class-leader in the Methodist Church, and has also served as Sunday-school Superintendent.



**B**EVERLY A. PORTER.—The subject of this sketch is probably the oldest native born citizen now residing in Burleson county. He was born near the old Spanish town of Jenostitlan, September 20, 1834. He was reared in this county and received his education in the schools of the same and at McKinzie's Institute at Clarksville, Red River county.

In 1861 he married Miss Sallie J. Lucas, of Burleson county, and having received his share of his father's estate—about \$10,000, consisting mainly of cattle—he branched out for himself and began caring for a separate household. He was soon called, however, from the paths of peace to take part in the great civil conflict of 1861-'65, entering the Confederate service at the opening of hostilities as a member of the Seventeenth Texas Infantry. His command began active operations about Little Rock, Arkansas, and from that date on, in that general locality, he served until the close of the war. He was in all the fights along Red river following Banks' campaign: Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Jenkins' Ferry and Yellow Bayou; had the good fortune to escape wounds and imprisonment, and surrendered at Hempstead, Texas, in May, 1865.

For three years after the close of the war Mr. Porter resided in Milam county, but at the end of that time returned to Burleson county, and with the exception of that period

and the period covered by the war has resided in the county of his nativity all his life. He has been engaged in farming and stock-raising, in which he has met with the usual experiences, prospering with the prosperous times and meeting with reverses in seasons of adversity. He has made over forty crops and tells with just pride that, although he has failed to make full crops some years, he has never failed to try, and has never made an entire failure. He resides on part of his inheritance, located about six miles west of Caldwell. With the fondness exhibited by all old Texans for live-stock he still gives some attention to that industry, particularly the sheep business, in which he has met with good success in recent years. Politics have claimed but little of Mr. Porter's time, and yet he cannot be said to have been indifferent to political matters. He affiliates with the Democrats and occasionally takes the field for a favorite candidate or some measure whose success he especially desires. Mr. Porter's domestic life, like his business career, has not been without its unhappy experiences. His wife, who shared the joys and sorrows of his early manhood, died in 1886, after having borne him nine children. She was a daughter of the Rev. William Lucas, a pioneer minister of the Baptist Church in Texas, originally from Alabama, which was his native State. His wife's maiden name was Sarah Norwood, and by this union he had nine children, of whom Mrs. Porter was the third in age. Her brothers and sisters were Daniel, Fannie, William T., Mary, James, Martha, John W. and Emma. Mr. Lucas died in 1875 and was buried at Porter's Chapel, on Porter's prairie, where also rest the remains of Mrs. Sallie J. Porter. To this union of Beverly A. and Sallie J. Porter were born nine chil-



dren: Eugene Eden, Theodore Beverly, Howard Brnee, William Virgil, Newell Edwin, Horace Greeley, Susan Frances, Jemima Martha, and one that died in infancy.

In 1887 Mr. Porter took in marriage for his second wife Mrs. Jane Houston, of Burleson county, and daughter of Nevil A. and Christiana (Oldham) Gee. The present Mrs. Porter was born in Burleson county in 1849, and in 1870 married Charles Houston, by whom she had three children: Robert, Ina and Charles. Mr. and Mrs. Porter have had two children: Hugh Nevil and Russel Aubrey.

Mr. Porter is a member of the Methodist Church, in which he has held the position of Steward.

Mr. Porter's genealogical history will be found in the sketch of his brother, Robert U. Porter, appearing elsewhere in this volume.

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**T**HOMAS W. HARRELL, a farmer of of Milam county, was born in Martin county, North Carolina, December 10, 1827. His paternal grandfather, Jesse Harrell, was probably a pioneer of North Carolina. He married Miss Chance, and they had seven children, of whom Theophilus Harrell, the father of our subject, was the eldest child. The latter was born in Martin county, North Carolina, about 1797, was a farmer and mechanic by occupation, and died when the subject of this notice was in his fourth year, at the age of thirty-three years. He married Mary Ann, a daughter of Batson Weatherbee, a farmer of North Carolina. They had five children, namely: Nancy Jane, who married Simmons Burnett both of whom are now deceased; William D., a resident of North Carolina; Thomas W., our

subject; Martha, wife of H. Y. Hyman, of North Carolina. The mother died in 1849.

Thomas W. Harrell began life independently at the age of twenty-one years. He learned the carpenter's trade and followed it continuously ten years, and then began agricultural pursuits. In February, 1849, he came by rail and water to Grandico, Texas, later to Milam county, and thence to Walker county, where he followed carpentering about a year and a half. In the fall of 1850 he concluded to try his fortune in the State of his birth; accordingly took stage for Houston and boat to Galveston, thence by boat to New Orleans, up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Wheeling, West Virginia, by stage to Cumberland, Maryland, and thence by rail home. In October, 1862, Mr. Harrell enlisted in Company E, Seventeenth North Carolina Infantry, under Col. W. F. Martin, for service in the Confederate army. They took part in the battles of New Berne, Cedar Creek, Cold Harbor, siege of Fort Fisher and in the operations about Kingston, North Carolina. It was in hearing distance of the bombardment of Fort Fisher, and participated in a number of engagements, in one of which, March 10, 1865, Mr. Harrell received a scalp wound in the head by which he was disabled for further duty during the remainder of the war. He was taken to a hospital at Raleigh, after the Bentonville fight to Charlotte, and when sufficiently recovered started to join his company, but heard of the surrender before reaching it and returned home.

In 1870 he came to Milam county, Texas, for permanent settlement, and paid \$12.50 in gold per acre for 200 acres of land. He has since added to his original purchase until he now owns 600 acres, 290 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation, and where



he raises about fifty bales of cotton annually. Politically, Mr. Harrell affiliates with the Democratic party, and in 1886 he was elected County Commissioner of Milam county and served one term.

Our subject was married in 1852, to Lonisa T., a daughter of Benjamin and Amy (Price) Martin. Mrs. Harrell was born and reared in Martin county, North Carolina, where her family were early settlers, her maternal grandfather, Thomas Price, being a soldier in the war of the Revolution. To this union there were born seven children: Viola S., now the wife of R. G. Vaughn of Milam county; Della F., wife of W. D. Tyson of Boone county, Arkansas; William T., who died in infancy; Benjamin L., living in Milam county; William Thomas, who lives in Falls county, this State; Mary Lonisa, wife of B. F. Stidham of Milam county; and Annie B., wife of D. I. Roberts of Milam county. The wife and mother died in November, 1872, and in 1875 Mr. Harrell married Mrs. Joanna Davis, widow of O. K. Davis and daughter of A. M. Massengale, and the children of this union are Emma T. and Willie May, both now deceased, and Jessie L., Florence A., Dora E. and Samuel M.

Mr. Harrell is a member of St. Paul's Lodge, No. 177, A. F. & A. M., of Maysfield.



**W** H. COFFMAN, one of the representative citizens of Lee county, is a son of John and Elizabeth (Cobb) Coffman. The great-grandfather of our subject, Isaac Coffman, came from Germany to Lincoln county, Virginia, at the close of the Revolutionary war. The family lived in that county until 1800, and in that year moved to

Mercer county, Kentucky. Isaac Coffman lived to a good old age, dying when our subject was ten years of age. The grandfather, Henry Coffman, raised his family in Hopkins county, as he did also his son, the father of our subject. The father was born in 1805, was married in 1830, and raised a family of eleven children, eight now living, viz.: W. H., our subject; Sarah K., wife of Jasper Orton, of Hanson, Kentucky; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Nance, of Webster county, that State; James P., of Slaughterville, Kentucky; David H., of Webster county, Kentucky; Leah F., now Mrs. Slaton, of Hopkins county; Thomas J., a resident of Burnet county, Texas; B. C., of Temple, this State; and Medora J., now Mrs. Smith, of Lee county. The father was a farmer by occupation, a member of the Methodist Church, and his death occurred in 1884. The mother died in 1887. The Cobb family were originally from Georgia, and the grandfather of our subject, Howell Cobb, was a cousin of the noted Georgia statesman of that name.

W. H. Coffman was born in Hopkins county, Kentucky, November 26, 1831. In October, 1855, he emigrated to Texas, locating on his present farm of 277 acres. He is a Democrat in his political views, served as Justice of the Peace a number of years, one term as County Commissioner, and represented Lee, Washington and Burleson counties in the Eighteenth Legislature. Since 1858 Mr. Coffman has served as secretary of the Masonic order, Lexington Lodge, No. 138; has held the same office ten years in the A. L. of H., Alpha Council, No. 166, is the oldest Past Commander in the State; and is also a member of the K. of H.

In Hopkins county, Kentucky, September 23, 1855, our subject was united in marriage with Nancy C. Brown. They had seven





children: Robert Morris, deceased; Denolas H., widow of a Mr. Thomas and a resident of Lee county; Genoa A., wife of Ira Bounds, of Milam county; Emma C., at home; Ann Elizabeth, now Mrs. Thomas, of Lee county; J. R. and William J., at home. The wife and mother died in July, 1875, and January 15, 1880, in Lee county. Mr. Coffman married Mary E. Standlee. They also have seven children: John H., Nannie B., Travis, Thomas G., Minnie A., Ellen M. and Frances Cleveland.



**F** M. BROWDER, a farmer of Lee county, is a son of Thomas Browder. The latter's father, Thomas Browder, lived in Hopkins county, Kentucky, was a soldier in the war of 1812, took part in the battle of New Orleans, with Jackson, and while returning from that engagement died suddenly when within a day's journey of home. The father of our subject was born and reared in Hopkins county, Kentucky, where he spent his entire life, with the exception of one year passed in Texas. He was married in 1829 to Pernetta Jackson, and they had eleven children, namely: F. M., our subject; James, deceased; John, deceased; Sallie, deceased; Mollie, deceased; Joseph, of Hopkins county, Kentucky; Richard, of Fannin county, Texas; Rufus, of Hopkins county; Samuel, whose residence is unknown; David, deceased; and Thomas, deceased. The father died in 1880, and the mother in 1886. They were members of the Methodist Church.

F. M. Browder, the subject of this sketch, was born in Hopkins county, Kentucky, June 1, 1831. In November, 1856, he came to Lee county, Texas, locating on the farm where he now resides. He owns 391 acres,

100 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company A, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, Confederate, under Colonel Allen, but did not participate in any battles, was principally on detail duty, and served west of the Mississippi river. At the close of the struggle he was employed by the Government in collecting titles. Mr. Browder has resided on his present farm continuously since coming to this State, with the exception of three years spent in Georgetown, for the purpose of educating his children.

In his political views he affiliates with the Democratic party, and socially is a Royal Arch Mason, holding his membership in Lexington Lodge, No. 138, in which he has served as Worshipful Master. He is a member of the Christian Church.

Mr. Browder was married in Hopkins county, Kentucky, in 1851, to Ann Eliza Gordon, and they had one child, now deceased. The wife and mother died July 25, 1856. In September, 1860, in Bastrop county, Texas, our subject married Cynthia L. Wilson, a daughter of John and Martha Wilson. The parents moved from the Eastern States to Mississippi, and in 1846 came to Bastrop county, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson had seven children: William, a farmer of Lee county; Caroline, now Mrs. Marley, of Bastrop county; Cynthia, the wife of our subject; Wiley, of Bastrop county; James, a farmer of Lee county; Andrew, of Bastrop county; and Jefferson, also of that county. The father, a member of the Methodist Church, died in 1881, and the mother still resides in Bastrop county. Mr. and Mrs. Browder have had six children, namely: Edward M., of Dallas, Texas; Joseph D. and Rufus W., farmers of Lee county; Charles D., graduated at the Southwestern Univer-





*H. G. Brown*



sity in the class of 1887, and now resides at Georgetown, Texas; Mary E. is now the wife of Dr. A. L. Hawkins, also of that city; and Samuel J., of Lee county. The eldest son, Edward M., was educated at the Southwestern University, graduating in the class of 1885. He then studied law with John F. Crowe, of Giddings, was admitted to the bar, and immediately opened an office in Dallas. He is now engaged in the practice of his profession with Mc'ormick & Spence.



JOHN G. BROWN, of Rockdale, Milam county, is a son of John and Fannie (Griffin) Brown, both natives of Alabama, in which State the subject of this sketch was also born. The father was born there in 1808, was reared and married there, his marriage occurring in 1834, when he was united to a daughter of one of the first settlers of the State, John Griffin. John Griffin and John Brown, the grandfathers of the subject of this review, were both natives of North Carolina, and moved, within the latter part of the last century or early in the present one, to Alabama, where for many years thereafter they resided, being extensive land-owners. Both died in their adopted State and left numerous descendants, who have since become scattered through the new Southwest. The Browns came originally from England, the Griffins from Ireland. Both took up their residence in this country in colonial times, settling in the southeast Atlantic sea-coast States, whence they drifted toward the Gulf as the Indians were removed and the country was opened to settlement. It is a tradition of the family that they were in the main sturdy yeomen and patriotic citizens, rendering good service in

time of war and living honorable and industrious lives in time of peace. The grandfathers of our subject were both soldiers in the Revolution. John Brown, father of John G. of this article, migrated in 1842 from Alabama to Arkansas, where he resided for about three years, coming thence in 1845 to Texas and settling in Washington county, where, with the exception of three years, he continued to reside until his death. He was a farmer, merchant and trader, and, in the course of a somewhat long and active life, succeeded in accumulating a considerable amount of property. He went in 1869 to California, where, through some unfortunate investments, he lost heavily. While a resident of Washington county he was for many years Deputy Sheriff of the county and filled other local positions, being a man of much public spirit and devoted to the best interests of the community where he lived. He was a life-long Democrat and greatly devoted to the interests of his party. He died in Washington county in 1876, aged sixty-eight years. His wife, mother of our subject, died in 1847, the year after the removal to Texas. The issue of their marriage was six children, four of whom attained maturity: Marion, John G., Thomas J. and James M., all of whom entered the Confederate army at the opening of the late war, enlisting in company F, Fifth Texas Mounted Volunteers. Marion died from injuries received in the service. Each of the others was wounded. Thomas J. lost his life in 1868 in New Mexico, being killed by the Indians while on his way to California. James M. is now a resident of San Patricio county, this State, where he is engaged in fruit-growing.

John G. Brown, the subject of this sketch, was born in what was then Benton, now Calhoun, county, Alabama, July 26, 1839. He





was thus in his sixth year when his parents came to Texas in 1845. After the death of his mother, the year following, he went, in 1848, to live with a Mr. Connell, of Washington county, with whom he made his home for four years, after which, in 1852, he was taken into the family of a Mrs. Pearson of that county. He remained with this lady for about five years, during which time he secured such limited educational advantages as were afforded at the time, being indebted to her for the same. He was also indebted to her for excellent training in other ways and for much encouragement and kindly counsel. On this account he retains pleasant recollections of her and of his stay at her house, and he gratefully makes this acknowledgment and pays her memory this public tribute. Working for her, for his father and occasionally for others, on the farm and at the stock business, his time was passed like that of most boys of his age until he reached his majority. Having married and, just as he was laying his plans for life, surveying his surroundings for an opportunity to begin consecutive operations, the war came on and he subordinated all his personal projects to meet the more pressing duties that called him to the field of action. He entered the Confederate army early in 1861, enlisting in Company F, Fifth Texas Mounted Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Tom Green. With this company he was assigned to duty on the Texas frontier and began his service in the well remembered campaign into New Mexico. He was identified with the entire campaign, in which was fought the battle of Val Verde, and, returning, was in the expedition along the Gulf coast, participating in the fight at Galveston, in which he assisted in the capture of the "Harriet Lane," being

wounded in this exploit by a minie ball. On account of this wound he was disabled and temporarily incapacitated for further service, spending the interim at home on a furlough. He soon recovered and returned to his command, with which he served until the close of the war, receiving his discharge at Houston in May, 1865. For three years following that date he worked on his father's farm in Washington county, and in 1868 started with his father for California, but, after reaching the Rio Grande river, decided to remain in Texas, and, returning to Washington county, there engaged in the mercantile business at Sand Town. After a year's successful pursuit of this business at that place, he embarked in the liquor business at points along the line of the Houston & Texas Central Railroad, which was then building west toward Austin. He retained these interests until 1876, when he settled at Rockdale, where he opened a saloon, which he has since conducted. He is thus one of Rockdale's oldest business men, and, it may be added, without exaggeration, is one of her successful ones. A business in Rockdale, averaging from \$15,000 to \$18,000 annually, a half interest in a business worth \$6,000 in Corpus Christi, a fruit farm of 300 acres, worth \$10,000, in San Patricio county, and an interest in a farm of 300 acres in Milam county, besides other investments, show that he has not been idle during the last two decades; for it must be remembered that he came out of the war without a dollar and had to struggle for several years for a bare subsistence for himself and family. That he has been diligent and watchful of his interests it is needless to say. He has devoted himself strictly to business, has always lived within his means, has been careful of his investments and conservative in all things.



For nine years he has served as Alderman of the town of Rockdale, and it is doing no injustice to others to say that Rockdale has never had on its board of Common Council a man more solicitous for the general welfare of the place, and more active in the support of every measure looking to that end, than Mr. Brown. His means, ability and progressive spirit make of him a valuable man in a new and enterprising place like Rockdale, and his support is always confidently relied upon in any undertaking of a public nature. He is not a partisan politician, but being a strong Democrat he generally interests himself in political matters to the extent of voting, and also, when occasion demands, is ever ready to turn out and work for the success of any man or cause whose interests he espouses.

February 15, 1861, Mr. Brown married Miss Myra Wray, then of Washington county, this State, but a native of Tennessee. Of this marriage four children have been born, of whom but two attained mature years: John T. and William M., both of whom are farmers of Milam county.



**W**ILLIAM E. BOZEMAN.—Few families are richer in history than the Bozeman family, and fewer of them have made any effort to gather and preserve in tangible shape for posterity a record of the deeds and achievements of their ancestors as far back as their foreign ancestry. Such record the Bozemans have, owing to the care of one Joseph Bozeman, of Meridian, Mississippi. The work was accomplished after about a decade of hard labor, at a considerable outlay and without

remuneration. From this little volume we learn that the family is one of the oldest and most prominent in the United States. The name originated in Europe, possibly in Holland, where it seems to have been Bosman.

Joseph E. and Nathan Bozeman emigrated to America with one of the Baltimores, and were among the pioneers of Maryland, but how they obtained a footing in the English county of the Calverts is not stated. Granting that they first crossed the channel to England, and set out for the New World as stated, their descendants scattered from the Baltimore colony to all points of the compass, North and South Carolina coming in for a good share of them. Samuel Bozeman was born in Bladen county, North Carolina, in 1730. He married Ann, a daughter of Nathaniel Richardson, who was a member of the Provincial Congress held at Halifax in 1776. Nine children were born to Samuel Bozeman, the first being Joseph, who was the double great-grandfather of our subject, born in North Carolina in April, 1756. He was a patriot soldier and participated in the siege of Augusta, Georgia, to which State at the close of hostilities he and his brothers and sisters immigrated, settling near Savannah. His first wife was a Miss Wood, a sister of Rev. David Wood, a Baptist minister. Mrs. Bozeman died young and left only one child, Nathan, the father of the celebrated New York physician and surgeon, Dr. Bozeman. The second wife of Joseph Bozeman was Elizabeth Pendleton, of Pennsylvania, whom he married in 1797. In 1806 Joseph moved his family to Kaskaskia, Illinois, by stage, requiring from March to May to make the trip. Disease was so prevalent there that the lives of his family were in jeopardy, and he returned in the fall of the same year to Georgia on pack horses. In 1818 he moved



his effects from Twiggs county, Georgia, to Covington county, Alabama, where he died in 1821, from the effects of a wound from a falling tree.

Mr. Bozeman was a fine mechanic, being skilled both in wood and iron, and was a gunsmith also. He was a fine marksman, and had a great taste for the sports of hunting and fishing. By occupation he was a farmer, and made it successful. Politically, he was a Democrat, and religiously a member of the Baptist Church. Nathan Bozeman was born October 7, 1785, and November 1, 1807, married Miss Harriet Knotts, of Burke county, Georgia, near Waynesboro. Mr. Knotts was born in South Carolina in 1745, and was a colonial soldier in the war of the Revolution. In 1819 Nathan Bozeman moved to Covington county, Alabama, and six years later removed to Butler county, near Greenville, and finally moved, in 1838, to Coosa county, where he died ten years later, October 11, 1848. He was a man of great industry, and public-spirited to a remarkable degree. He used to say that the sound of many axes in forest and field was the sweetest music he ever heard, and always believed in all of the members of his household having employment. He accumulated a good property, and won a high place in public esteem. As a valuable and honorable citizen, Nathan Bozeman will always be remembered. His family consisted of eleven children, the fourth of which family was David Wood Bozeman, the father of our subject.

The birth of David W. Bozeman took place February 16, 1814, and he received the rudiments of an education in his native State. When only eighteen years of age he married Miss Ann English Browning, a lady of fifteen. For many years of his life Mr.

Bozeman was engaged as an overseer, and as his means accumulated he invested in negro property, whose labor made him rich rapidly. He bought and managed large estates and became one of the most successful financiers of the State of Alabama. Moneyed corporations sought his assistance and counsel, and the State his services. He was an ardent Democrat of the States-Right stripe, and of pronounced disunion sentiments when the question union was being agitated.

In 1860 he was a delegate to the convention which nominated John C. Breckenridge to the Presidency. The next year he took his seat in the Alabama Legislature, and was an active participant in the deliberations of that day. In 1855 Mr. Bozeman established himself at Wetumpka, Alabama, in the banking business, and was very prosperous when the Civil war came on and swept away at one breath \$56,000. His reverses might have crippled him seriously had he not made a speculative trip to Texas in 1857 and invested largely in western lands in Milam and Tom Green counties. He had visited the State even earlier than that, being here on an exploring tour in 1851.

After the war Mr. Bozeman came to Milam county and gave his attention to farming and speculating in land. He had a strong desire for the excitement incident to a campaign in politics. He was a great reader, and when called upon for a speech always had something interesting to give his hearers. He was once a candidate for the State Senate in Texas. In the latter part of his life he united with the Missionary Baptist Church. His habits were always temperate and moral. In personal appearance he was tall, with black hair and eyes and olive complexion, and great firmness marked his dealings with those under him, and what he said he meant and





what he required he had done. He set special value upon manual labor, but generously extended financial aid whenever he was convinced of the true worth of the recipient. He died in 1887, but his widow still survives him, enjoying apparently excellent health. Mr. Bozeman was the father of fourteen children: James H., born October 20, 1836, and died at the age of eighteen; William E., our subject; David B., born January 2, 1845; Emma A., born January 2, 1848, married Alonzo Rushing, of Alabama; Nathan G., born September 5, 1853; Henry J., born June 3, 1855; Beauregard P., born March 19, 1862; while seven others died in childhood.

William E. Bozeman was born in Loulades county, Alabama, March 23, 1841, and was brought up on a farm and secured only country-school advantages. At twenty years of age he enlisted as Sergeant in Company I, Captain B. F. Melton, his first colonel being John Withers, and his last one Colonel Charles Forsythe, Third Alabama Regiment of Infantry. He participated in many hard-fought battles, among them being those of Seven Pines, Gaines' Mill, Savage Station, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, and all of the engagements of Lee's army until the fall of 1864, when he received a flesh wound at the battle of Cedar Creek in Virginia. This confined him to the hospital until December, when he returned home, where he remained until March, 1865. He then set out to join the decimated ranks of Lee's army, but at Danville he heard of the surrender and with bowed head he returned to his home. The next year he left his native State and came to Texas, stopping in Red River county until 1868, when he came to Milam county and settled in the vicinity of Baileyville, where he has since resided. He lives on a part of

the land purchased by his father in 1857, having received from his father 225 acres, on which he settled in 1868, and which he has improved. Mr. Bozeman also owns a half section in Tom Green county, suitable for grazing.

In 1864 he married Miss Sallie Pylant, a daughter of John A. and Mary Pylant, who were then residents of Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Bozeman have had eight children, all girls; Mollie, now wife of W. J. Smilie, of Milam county; Emma J., wife of D. P. Williams, of Dallas county, Texas; Minnie L.; Lurline L., wife of J. D. Stoucham, of Falls county; Willie E. and Jessie R., still at home. The religious connection of the family is with the Baptist Church, most of them holding or having held membership in Caddo Church, in the vicinity of Baileyville.



**G** H. YOE.—Since the days when the adventurous Captain Henry Hudson first pushed his explorations up the romantic stream that bears his name, and on the banks of that stream planted the seeds of one of the thriftiest colonies on this continent, down to the present time, the nation under whose flag he sailed, Holland, and the more populous and stronger nation, Germany, which he may be said in some measure to have represented, have furnished to this country a large portion of its people, and what is better, some of its sturdiest, thriftiest, most intelligent and best citizens. These two countries have sent to the New World representatives who have illustrated, both in war and peace, the characteristics of their people, being no less distinguished for their valor in one than for the triumphs of their genius and industry in the other. And it can be said



without disparagement to the numerous other people represented in the American body politic that those communities where the Dutch and German settlers predominate are without exception in national faith and unity the soundest, as they are in the common affairs of life in the healthiest and most prosperous condition.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Germany and comes to the strong German stock here referred to. He was born July 23, 1844, and is a son of John and Lizzie Yoe, both natives also of Germany. The parents never came to America, but have always resided in their native country, where they are leading the quiet, useful lives of the respectable and fairly well-to-do middle class of citizens to which they belong. C. H. Yoe left Germany a sixteen-year-old lad in 1860, and came to this country making his first stop at Baltimore. In that city he apprenticed himself to a blacksmith and learned the trade which he followed there and in Washington city until after the close of hostilities between the two sections in 1865, when he came South and for a year or more lived at New Orleans.

He came to Texas in 1868, and a year later to Milam county. For a year after coming to this county he worked on a farm; then he took up his residence in Cameron, where he again went at his trade and followed it steadily for nearly ten years. By industry, thrift and economy he managed to save some from his earnings, and being desirous of venturing into a new field of employment he purchased a small stock of goods in 1878 and engaged in the mercantile business in Cameron. His venture proved successful, he enlarged his stock from time to time as demanded by the trade and for a number of years did a large and successful business. He

sold out his mercantile interests in January, 1892, and, having already made several considerable investments in farm lands, extended his operations in this direction and has since given his attention actively to improving his holdings. He owns some desirable real estate in this county, having over 600 acres of farm land under cultivation, on which he raises an abundance of Texas' sovereign product, cotton. He also owns good town property in Cameron and is regarded as one of Cameron's solid men of means.

Mr. Yoe's energies have been concentrated in the pursuit of his own business and his efforts have yielded him a rich reward. He has never held public office but once, when he was induced to take for a short time the office of County Treasurer, which he filled acceptably until his successor was elected and qualified. He has taken an active part, however, in all matters relating to the development of the town and county, and has been foremost both with his money and personal efforts to promote all enterprises looking to their improvement. He is also identified with the best social interests of the place, being a member of the Knights of Honor and the Masons, in which last order he is a Knight Templar, and has filled all the positions in the blue lodge and chapter to which he belongs. He adheres to the religious faith of his fathers, being a member of the Lutheran Church, but is liberal both in opinion and with his means as respects the support of church organizations. In 1871 Mr. Yoe married Caroline Meyers, a daughter of Frederick and Rose Elizabeth Meyers, who were among Milam county's early settlers, and who are most pleasantly remembered by many of the older citizens of this day. They were natives of Germany and came to America about 1844 or 1845, settling in



Milam county a year or two later. The father died in Cameron in 1870, aged fifty-three, and the mother in 1872, at the same age. Of their twelve children only five are now living,—Caroline (Mrs. Yoe), Albert, Charles, Lu and David,—three dying of yellow fever in Houston shortly after the family came to the State, and four in Cameron. It would be depriving this sketch of part of its interest and robbing a good woman of her just deserts, not to add that much to the success which Mr. Yoe has attained has been due to the kindly counsel and efficient aid which he has received at the hands of the lady whom he selected now more than twenty years ago for a companion, and who during all these years has borne him a faithful and affectionate companionship.



**P**HILIP DANIEL KOONTZ, a stockman, residing twelve miles north of Georgetown, in Glasscock valley, is the only son of W. A. and Lonisa (Counts) Koontz, of German descent. The mother's name is but the English spelling of the father's name. The paternal family located in Rockingham county, Virginia, in an early day, and the grandfather of our subject afterward moved to Madison county, Ohio. W. A. Koontz was born in Virginia, was reared to manhood and married in Ohio; taught school in that State several years, and then began a broker's business, which, in connection with banking, he followed until late in life. He then, having made a fortune, retired from active life, and now resides in Sedalia, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Koontz had two children, and the daughter, now deceased, was the wife of J. M. Stroup, a prominent and successful merchant of Sedalia.

P. D. Koontz was born in Madison county, Ohio, April 21, 1849, and was educated at the Ohio Wesleyan College, at Delaware, Ohio, and at the Antioch College, at Yellow Springs, same State. Much of his early life was given to travel and recreation. Raised in the Buckeye State by indulgent and well-to-do parents, and educated at the best of northern schools, Mr. Koontz yet saw fit, in his young manhood, to cast his lot among the people of Williamson county, where, for twenty years, he has successfully tried the virtue of Texas soil and climate. He was induced to come to this county by the father (now deceased) and an uncle of Captain J. A. Rumsey, of Corn Hill. Arriving in this neighborhood in the fall of 1872, Mr. Koontz purchased 100 acres of improved land in the Glasscock valley, known as the Tremble farm. This was the beginning of his Texas life, and, although he has spent a part of the intervening time at his boyhood's home, he has ever since maintained his residence here. To the original purchase he has gradually added until he now owns 2,000 acres, 600 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. This is one of the best farms in Williamson county. Mr. Koontz gives special attention to the raising of Poland-China swine.

In this county, in 1872, our subject was united in marriage to Miss Emer Marrs, who died four years later. They had two children: Iosa Winetka, wife of John E. King, Jr., of Williamson county; and Emola Glen, wife of Thomas S. King, also of this county. May 2, 1881, Mr. Koontz married Fannie L. Orebaugh, a daughter of John L. and Emily (Jones) Orebaugh. Her ancestors were of German descent, located in the same county in Virginia as did Mr. Koontz's people, and afterward moved to Ohio. John L. Ore-





baugh, a merchant by occupation, was born and passed his entire life in Highland county, Ohio, and died of disease contracted while serving as a Union soldier. Mrs. Koontz was left an orphan at the age of thirteen years, with two sisters: Mary, wife of J. H. Van Pelt, a prosperous farmer of Madison county, Ohio; and Ella, now Mrs. E. B. Collier, of Dayton, that State. Mr. and Mrs. Koontz have had the following children: Texas Belle, Carlo Serena, and Ernest Samuel, aged respectively (1893), eleven, nine and seven years.



**D**R. JOHN THREADGILL, Second Vice President of the First National Bank of Taylor, was born in Anson county, North Carolina, September 28, 1847, a son of James and Eliza (Paul) Threadgill, who were born and reared there, the father being of English and the mother of Scotch extraction. The father was a speculator and was favorably known all over the Southwest. For over thirty years he was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a good man and foremost in the conflicts of the times for the betterment of the condition of the masses. He took a broad view of his personal responsibility and his active years were all most earnestly given to the promotion of the cause of goodness under a high impulse that makes life great and often very effective. He died January 1, 1880, aged sixty-five years.

The mother of our subject belonged to a fine old Scotch family, the McKinnays of North Carolina. She was a deeply pious woman and reflected the power and beauty of a Christian life in relation to her family, the church and the community. These parents

had twelve children, all of whom lived to mature years, and ten are living at the present writing.

Our subject was educated in the common schools and studied medicine under the tutelage of Dr. E. F. Ash, of Wadesborough, North Carolina, and attended a course of medical lectures in the Baltimore Medical College during the winter of 1867-'68. He then returned to North Carolina and began the practice of medicine in a country town, remaining there until the summer of 1870, when he came to Washington county, Texas, and practiced there until May 1, 1875, then located near Circleville, in Williamson county, and practiced there until the town of Taylor started, and ever since that time has been located there.

His practice continued until 1880, when he entered into the real-estate business, continuing until 1890, when he went into the banking business. He was elected to his present position in 1891. The other officers of the bank are: John R. Hoxie, President; J. P. Sturgis, Vice President; Dr. John Threadgill, Second Vice President; C. H. Welch, Cashier; F. L. Welch, Assistant Cashier. This bank has a capital paid in of \$150,000, with a surplus of \$25,000, and it does a general banking business.

Our subject owns much real estate in Taylor, Williamson and in other counties in the State. He was the first physician that practiced in the town, and owned the first drug store, which is now conducted by his brother, J. G. Threadgill. From August, 1877, to August, 1879, he conducted this store. He was also the first Notary in the town and erected the third dwelling, and since that time to the present has been very active in all of the enterprises for public improvement. Either as Mayor or as Alderman he has been





*J. H. Holzclaw*



connected with the city government ever since the organization of the place, serving as Mayor from 1885 to 1889, when he refused the office longer.

The Doctor has been married three times, his third wife having been Miss Fannie Falwell of Memphis, Tennessee. By his second marriage he had one daughter, Jennie, and one by his third, Mary Fannie.

Mrs. Threadgill is a valued member of the Episcopal Church, believing in the beautiful tenets of that church. The Doctor is a blue lodge Mason, a member of the I. O. O. F., in which he has held the chairs, and is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. He takes a great interest in local politics and is a strong supporter of the State administration. He is one of the prosperous and successful business men of the county, and his life furnishes a good example of what will and perseverance can accomplish when coupled with honesty and strict integrity.



**JAMES H. HOLTZCLAW.**—In the summer of 1835 Major Sterling C. Robertson, the empresario, then engaged in his scheme of founding a colony in Texas, made an extensive tour of Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee and Kentucky in the interest of his enterprise. He succeeded in inducing a large number of settlers to accompany him out that year, and these took up claims what was then known as "Robertson's grant." One of this number was Warner Bernard Holtzclaw, the father of James H. Holtzclaw of this article. Warner Bernard Holtzclaw was a native of Virginia, born in the first year of this century. He was reared in his native State and when a young man migrated to Tennessee, locating near

Nashville, where he became overseer for General Andrew Jackson, and where he married and resided until his removal to Texas. His marriage occurred in 1831, when he espoused Martha, a daughter of Captain James Leach, then of Davidson county, Tennessee, but originally from Virginia, a veteran of the Revolution and an early immigrant to the West.

On coming to Texas in 1835 Warner Bernard Holtzclaw "laid a head-right" on a tract of land in what was then the unsurveyed and unsettled San Gabriel and Little river country, now Milam county. No actual settlement on his "head-right" was attempted by him at that time on account of the transitional state of affairs on the frontier at that time. Like many others he spent the time between that date and the final emancipation of Texas from Mexican authority, in prospecting, hunting and scouting. His family came to Texas in 1836 and settled at Nacogdoches, where they remained during the troublous times of the Revolution. In 1837, with the gradual forward movement of the settlers toward the west and southwest he moved his family to the town of Washington, where he embarked in the hotel business, which he followed at that place for about two years. He was the pioneer hotel-keeper of Washington, and furnished accommodations for man and beast to many of Texas' early settlers and most distinguished men. He died in Washington county, in 1842, meeting a violent death at the hands of an assassin who shot him from ambush as he was returning home to his farm, which was about three miles from town. He was taken away in the prime of life, at a time when his career gave promise of greater activity and usefulness than he had theretofore known, albeit his earlier years had not been spent in





idleness nor in unprofitable labor. He was one who was well formed by nature for the duties that fell to his lot, and he discharged those duties creditably to himself and with advantage to the community in which he lived. Strong in body, courageous, self-reliant, expert in the use of fire-arms and skilled in wood-craft, he combined all the elements of the frontiersman with the better qualities of the sturdy, industrious, home-loving commonwealth builder. To these endowments were added habits of temperance and sobriety, charity for the foibles and shortcomings of others, and a generosity toward all his fellow creatures, hardly equaled in those times, now celebrated as the golden age of the household virtues and man's love for man. During his residence in Tennessee he interested himself actively in politics, being a Democrat and trained under the eye of the great apostle of Democracy, General Jackson, to whom he was greatly attached both personally and politically. Politics playing but little part in the affairs of the people of Texas when he took up his residence here, his mind was concerned with the more weighty problems incident to the founding of the new government of the Republic, and the furtherance of the measures by which it should be sustained. He left at his death a widow and two children. The widow was married a second time, in 1846, to V. P. Ackerman, of Washington county, and died a year later. The elder of the two children was James H. Holtzelaw, of this article, and the younger a daughter, Martha, who was first the wife of L. M. Minor, and after his death the wife of R. H. Sanford, both of Milam county.

Yes H. Holtzelaw, with whom this sketch is mainly concerned, was born at General Jackson's famous country seat, "The Hermitage," near Nashville, Tennessee,

March 20, 1833. His recollections, however, are entirely of Texas, as he was brought to this State by his parents at the age of three. He was reared principally in Washington county. On the death of his mother he was bound out, at the age of fourteen, to William Rutledge of Washington county, to learn the blacksmith's trade, but before completing his indenture ran away and joined an expedition bound for New Mexico in search of gold. With this party of adventurers, composed of 116 men under the leadership of Rev. Stewart, a Methodist minister, he spent several months prospecting in New Mexico. The expedition broke up in the fall of 1852, having failed in its object, the finding of gold. Its members separated and followed their individual inclination, scattering into diverse sections of the Union. Mr. Holtzelaw located at El Paso, Texas, which was on the route to California, and along which there was a large amount of travel in those days. There he secured work at his trade and followed it profitably for a period of two years. He then returned to Texas, and going to his old home in Washington county, passed a short time there and then came, in 1855, to Milam county. Here he was married, February 4, 1857, and then settled down to farming on the head-right located by his father, between the San Gabriel and Little rivers. He has since continuously resided here. He has been engaged in farming on his present place nearly forty years, and thus has not only one of the first located head-rights, but one of the oldest actually settled farms in the county. He has added to the old homestead by purchase until his holdings now embrace 2,300 acres, all lying in the black land district, and about 400 acres of which is under cultivation. It is a splendid body of land and one that is yearly growing in value.



Mr. Holtzelaw filled the usual number of local offices, and was a volunteer in the Confederate army, serving from May, 1862, until the surrender as a member of Company B, Brown's regiment, with which he did duty along the coast and at interior points in the State.

Mrs. Holtzelaw, like her husband, is a native of Tennessee, born in Williamson county, in 1834. Her maiden name was Elizabeth T. Sanford, she being a daughter of Ruben and Mary Sanford, who moved to Texas in 1854. She was reared in Williamson county, Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Holtzelaw are the parents of three children: John E. of Belton, Bell county, this State; Martha R. wife of Lewis Davis, of Port Townsend, Washington; and James, a farmer of Milam county. Mrs. Holtzelaw is a member of the Christian Church. Mr. Holtzelaw is a Universalist. In politics he is an independent. Both, as might be expected, are greatly devoted to Texas and all its interests and institutions.

Mr. Holtzelaw's life is suggestive of a historical perspective that is full of interest, a perspective that is crowded with stirring incidents and events of surpassing moment. It really embraces all of the history-making period of the State's existence,—five different governments, three wars of national consequence, besides numerous Indian forays and expeditions, the expulsion of the red man, the era of railway development, urban development, internal improvement, and all the wonders wrought by steam and electricity, brains energy and money. In this marvelous change, which seems more like the work of the enchanter's wand than the steady progress of human events, he has performed, in his humble and unpretentious way, the part which time and chance have assigned to him; and that he has done it faithfully and well is

the unanimous testimony of those among whom he has so long lived and labored.

An incident of a local interest and illustrative somewhat of the character of the man, is told of Mr. Holtzelaw by one of his neighbors. In the summer of 1865, while a number of regiments of United States troops were on their way to San Antonio as an army of occupation, one of the regiments halted for refreshments one day on the San Gabriel river near Mr. Holtzelaw's place. Mr. H. happening to pass that way at the time noticed their colors (a splendid flag said to have been presented to them by the ladies' of the town in New York where the regiment was raised) standing in the bed of the river at some distance unprotected, but in full view of the camp. Slipping down unseen to where the flag stood he hurriedly took off the large silver spear-head and cord and made away with them, leaving the staff and flag. As soon as the loss was discovered there was consternation in the camp. An immediate search was instituted; several citizens were arrested and threats of severe punishment indulged in. Among others arrested was a tenant on Mr. Holtzelaw's place, Alexander Phillips, whom it was reported the soldiers were treating with considerable indignity. Seeing that his neighbors were suffering unjustly and that the search then going on was liable to develop into a sort of persecution, Mr. Holtzelaw concluded to "make a clean breast of it" and face the consequences whatever they might be. He therefore went down to the camp and asked to see the officer in command. This at first was denied him, but after some parleying he was conducted to the presence of this gentleman. He informed the officer that he had come to say that none of the citizens whom he had caused to be



apprehended or was then in search of had the missing trappings; that those coveted articles were at that moment in his (Holtzelaw's) possession, where they had been since he had taken them from the staff a day or so before. The officer asked Mr. Holtzelaw what he meant by such conduct, and in the same breath desired to know if he was fully aware of the nature of the offence he had committed. Mr. H. replied that he had just come out of the army where he had given up four years of valuable time, and that if he did not bring home with him some knowledge of the rules of war, his four years' service might be considered as lost, for he certainly had not brought anything else. Then, looking the officer steadily in the eye, he said: "Colonel, when a flag is left unprotected isn't it the property of the enemy, provided the enemy can get it?" The officer winced a little, but replied that it was not supposed that there was an enemy in that vicinity. Mr. Holtzelaw answered that if there was not, then there would not seem to be much need for any soldiers around. The officer then asked him what he had intended to do with the things he had taken. Mr. H. said that his intention was to make the finest bridle in Texas out of the rope, and to decorate it becomingly with the silver spearhead. After some other remarks of a desultory but respectful nature on the part of each, Mr. Holtzelaw took his departure without being afterward threatened or molested. The spearhead and cord was turned over to a soldier who was sent after them, and no more was heard of the matter.

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**W** P. BRANCH.—The warp and woof of historical narrative is made of facts and no retiring dislike for the world's plaudits, therefore, should be allowed

to shade one's virtues of character. Yet when these veil themselves in a sensitive shrinking from the glare of public gaze it is sometimes very difficult to do one justice in a personal notice like the present, especially when the biographer is compelled in some degree to depend on the man himself for much of his personal history. William P. Branch, who for nearly twenty years has been a resident of Rockdale and whose business career, and, in fact, the greater part of whose life has been identified with the history of the place, is one to whom the foregoing observations apply with some force.

Mr. Branch is a native of Virginia, having been born near Petersburg in 1851 and is a son of Robert H. and Martha Branch, both of whom were natives also of the Old Dominion. The boyhood and youth of the subject of this sketch were passed on his father's farm, where, in the intervals of his labor as an assistant in the duties about home, he received the elements of a common English education. The late Civil war, which wrought such havoc in the fortunes of so many of Virginia's best people, brought to the family of the subject of this notice its relative proportion of sorrow and disappointment, and changed in many essentials the plans of the father with respect to the future of his sons. William P. early decided on a career for himself, and at the age of seventeen, in 1868, left home and went to New York city, where he entered a boot and shoe house, in which he became cashier and book-keeper, a position which at once ushered him into the world of business and brought him much valuable experience. He remained in New York four years, when, in 1872, he turned his attention to the "New Southwest," then just entering on the era of development which has since marked its prog-

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ress. From 1872 to February 1874 he resided near Palestine in Anderson county, this State, where he was engaged in the mercantile business. On the completion of the railroad to Rockdale, on the date last mentioned, he settled here and this has since been his home. He started with the town, being on the site early enough not only to "get in on the ground floor," as the saying goes, but to start on the ground itself, since there were but few buildings in the place when he came. From that date until the present his fortunes have been linked with those of the town, prospering with its general prosperity and losing by its reverses and disasters. For a number of years he was engaged in the general mercantile business, but about 1882 changed to furniture, and in the past ten or eleven years he has built up one of the largest trades in this line in Milam county. He also has a branch house at Taylor, which was established about the same time the one was at Rockdale, and which does a large and successful business. Mr. Branch gives his attention exclusively to his business interests, never having been identified with any outside enterprises except the Rockdale bank, of which he was for about two years cashier. He has, however, contributed to local enterprises financially and assisted in person in getting them on foot. Whatever is calculated to stimulate the industry or promote the general welfare of the community in which he resides he is willing to help in proportion to his means and does so cheerfully. Like most new towns Rockdale suffered severely in former years by fires, and a number of its citizens lost at different times a large share of their earnings, Mr. Branch being one of this number, and having probably sustained heavier losses than any other man in the town. But he

has survived these financial disasters, and, maintaining an abiding confidence in the future of the town, he has reared upon the ruins of his former establishments his present splendid business interests.

In January, 1877, Mr. Branch married Miss Ella V. Rogers, then of Rockdale, a daughter of Rev. O. F. Rogers, who moved to Texas from Booneville, Mississippi, where Mrs. Branch was born and reared. Mr. and Mrs. Branch have a pleasant home and lend their aid to the best social interests of the town, as well as to its moral and religious interests.



GARRETT E. KING, a prominent business man of Taylor, was born in Lowndes county, Mississippi, in 1858, a son of John King, a native of South Carolina. In an early day the latter moved with his parents to Mississippi, where he received a limited education. In 1859 he landed in Robertson county, Texas, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1869. At the opening of the late war he joined Colonel Ford's company, and for about three years served on the western frontier of Texas. During that time he was in constant danger from ambush by the Indians and Mexicans, who at that time were laying waste that part of the country. They were probably in greater danger than those following Lee, Johnston or Jackson. The western soldiers had always to guard against an attack on the rear or against ambush, and, although on an open plain, each sage bush might conceal a savage. After the close of the struggle Mr. King returned home, and, like many others who had fought for their country, found himself as he had started in the world. Although an old Texas

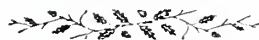


pioneer, he has never taken an active part in political matters, but votes with the Democratic party. Mr. King was united in marriage with Miss Mary Manahan, and they had four children: G. E., our subject; Ophelia A., wife of A. G. Bass, of Temple, Texas; Florence, wife of H. L. Long, of Bremond, this State; and Laura, deceased at eleven years. Mrs. King died about 1878, having been a member of the Missionary Baptist Church for many years. In 1879 Mr. King married Miss Florence Ferney. They had three children.—Katie, John and Otis. Mr. King still continues to reside upon and operate his farm a short distance from Taylor.

Garrett E. King, the subject of this sketch, was brought to Robinson county, Texas, when only a few months old, and at the age of ten years moved with his father to the immediate vicinity of Grand View, Johnson county, where he attended the country schools. He accompanied his father through various counties in Texas, and at the age of nineteen years began life for himself, as manager of a plantation. Mr. King managed successfully different farms for four years. At the age of twenty-three years he engaged in the beer and ice business at a small place known as Milano Junction, but in 1883 came with his family to Taylor, although he had previously established a beer trade in this city. After locating here Mr. King purchased the coal business from the Taylor Hardware Company, and since that time has had a large and lucrative trade. In addition to his other interests, he also owns a fine farm of 800 acres near Taylor, 200 acres of which is cultivated, and he feeds a large number of cattle and hogs. He also owns considerable city property.

December 7, 1882, Mr. King was married to Mrs. Mary W. Allen, a daughter of Willis

and Mallie (Dennis) Johnson, natives of Virginia. To this union have been born four children: Ethel, Mamie, Lewis and Frank. Mrs. King is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church. Our subject affiliates with Alamo Lodge, No. 53, K. of P.



JOHN H. E. POWELL, one of the physicians of Bastrop county, was born in Northampton county, Virginia, March 7, 1853, a son of John H. and Sallie J. (Nottingham) Powell, of English and Welsh parentage. Both families came to America long before the war for independence. The Nottinghams located in Northampton county, and were among its early settlers. The maternal grandmother of our subject, formerly a Miss Floyd, was a member of the Floyd family of Virginia. John H. Powell was born in Maryland, and was a farmer and merchant by occupation. He died in Virginia, leaving two children,—Dr. Powell and Leah, wife of N. B. Wescott.

Dr. Powell received his literary education in his native county, and at the age of twenty-four years began the study of medicine. During the same year he entered the Medical Department of the University of Virginia, at Charlottesville, afterward graduating at the University of Maryland in 1879. He practiced his profession a short time in Maryland, and in 1880 came to Texas, locating in the neighborhood where Smithville now stands, in February, 1881, where he immediately began the practice of medicine. The Doctor has twice moved to California since locating in this State, remaining there about one and a half years, and during that time practicing medicine in Downey, Los Angeles, California. Since 1889 he has followed his profession



continuously in Smithville. Prior to his last trip to California, and during the year of 1887 he attended the New York Post-Graduate School for physicians, taking a general course of study. In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Powell is a member of the drug firm of C. E. Deckers & Co., and is engaged in ginning for the public at Smithville.

The Doctor was married January 15, 1885, to Rachel Jones, a native of this county, and a daughter of B. F. and Margaret V. (Wilson) Jones, one of the early pioneer and honored families of Bastrop county. Mr. and Mrs. Powell have three children: Leah M., Franklin J. and John H. Mrs. Powell is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church. The Doctor affiliates with J. Nixon Lodge, No. 421, with the A. F. & A. M., Smithville Lodge, and with the K. of P., No. 92. Politically, he is a staunch Democrat of the old school.



**CAPTAIN B. I. ARNOLD.**—Twenty-eight years' residence in Texas has made of this gentleman what that number of years' residence would naturally make of a man of intelligence and observation, an enthusiastic believer in the State's future, a staunch supporter of her institutions and a loyal defender of her people. Although a Northerner by lineage, birth and early training, it is doubtful whether in an assembly of a hundred native-born citizens he could be distinguished from the most typical Texan, and certainly even in such an assembly he would not yield to any in his allegiance to his adopted State and to all that is peculiarly Texan in name and character.

Captain Arnold is a native of Ohio, born in the town of Carlisle, Clarke county, Febru-

ary 3, 1841. He was reared in northern Illinois, whither his parents moved when he was young. Before he reached his majority he entered the Union army, enlisting September 2, 1861, in the Fourth Illinois Cavalry, with which he began service at Fort Henry and served till the surrender, taking part in all the engagements in which his command participated, covering the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas. At the close of the war his regiment was consolidated with the Twelfth Illinois, placed under General Custer and sent to Texas as an army of occupation. For about a year Captain Arnold was stationed at Brenham, where he served in the Freedmen's Bureau department. In May, 1866, he quit the service and for two years engaged in farming in Washington county, then in the mercantile business, which he followed till March, 1870, when he came to Cameron to accept the office of Sheriff of Milan county, under appointment from E. J. Davis, then Governor of the State, under reconstruction measures. He held this office till May, 1874, discharging its delicate and difficult duties acceptably both to the court and the people.

At the expiration of his term of office he located permanently in Cameron, engaged in business and has since made this place his home. For sixteen years past he has conducted a successful real-estate and insurance business, has served two terms as Mayor, and has been identified with every movement looking to the improvement of the town and county. He has fairly won his way to the confidence and esteem of the people of this locality by his loyalty to them and their interests, and has established his reputation as a sound man of business by the success he has attained in his own affairs. A Republican





in politics, his opportunities for political activity have been restricted to the arena of conventions, where however he has been a constant attendant and an effective worker. He is one of the lights of Republicanism in the State, but the recipient of few favors from Federal authority, adherence to party being with him a matter of principle and activity in its behalf without thought of personal gain.

August 28, 1873. Captain Arnold married Miss Mary Tucker of Cameron, a daughter of William H. Tucker, an old and respected citizen of Milam county. Mrs. Arnold was reared in this county, and is one of that type of Texas women, not unfrequently met with, who have grown to full maturity in sound sense and all the essentials of true womanhood without the aid of those numerous accessories of boarding schools and popular conservatories now thought to be so necessary to the proper training of young ladies. A pleasant home, graced by three daughters, now promising young ladies, and a large circle of friends, go to make the domestic life of Captain Arnold as happy as his official and business career has been successful.



**T**HOMAS KRAITCHER, senior member of the well-known mercantile firm of Thomas Kraitcher & Son, of Caldwell, Burleson county, is a native of Austria, Bohemia, where he was born April 8, 1848. His parents were Thomas and Anna Kraitcher, natives also of Bohemia, the father born in 1799 and the mother in 1809. The parents, with their three small children, two daughters and one son, emigrated to the United States in 1855 and settled at Houston, this State. There the mother died

in 1866, and the father a year later. Both were thrifty, industrious, law-abiding and home-loving people, members for many years of the Lutheran Church, and faithful in the discharge of their domestic and religious duties. The daughters married in this State, the elder, Teresa, marrying Joseph Hajek and residing now in Houston, and the younger marrying first Paul Wickophen, and after his death, Joseph Augusta, with whom she now resides on a farm in Burleson county.

Thomas Kraitcher, the subject of this notice, was the youngest of the above family. He was reared mainly in Houston, in the schools of which city he received a common English education. December 17, 1867, he married Anna Mikeska, of Houston, and for the next three or four years continued his residence in that place, being variously engaged. In 1869 he moved to Washington county, where he settled on a farm and followed farming pursuits for the next year. He then moved to Burleson county, where he engaged in farming for seven or eight years, after which he embarked in the mercantile business at Caldwell, and has followed the same ever since. Mr. Kraitcher was one of the first settlers of Bohemian birth in Burleson county. The first five families that settled in this county came in the following order: Thomas Kraitcher, Frank Mikeska, Thomas Elshik, John Gavenda and Joseph Obadal, but two of whom now remain in the county, these being Mr. Kraitcher and Mr. Gavenda. The colony, however, has been greatly augmented by other arrivals. In 1870 there were five Bohemian votes in Burleson county; there are now about 550. Mr. Kraitcher has always been a leader among his people, having won their confidence and respect by his business sagacity,



his honesty and uprightness, and his uniform kindness and indulgence to them. He has also taken standing among the best citizens of the community where he resides, regardless of nationality, being a progressive, enterprising and public-spirited man. He has served as Alderman of the town of Caldwell for two years, and is now a member of the board, being on his second term. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1877, and has held a number of positions in the order. He belongs to the Knights and Ladies of Honor and to the Bohemian Benevolent Association, of which last order he is now State Collector. While on the farm Mr. Kraitcher was identified with the best interests of the farming community, being a member of the State Alliance, of which he was Vice-President.

Mr. Kraitcher has had two children, Mary and Thomas, the latter being now the junior member of the firm of Kraitcher & Son. Thomas Kraitcher, Jr., married Mary Koconrek, a daughter of Joseph Koconrek, of Burleson county, in 1890, and has one child.



**WASHINGTON ANDERSON**, a pioneer settler of Williamson county, was born in Pennsylvania county, Virginia, January 31, 1817, a son of Dr. Thomas Anderson, a native also of that State. The latter's father, Richard Anderson, was a Captain in the Revolutionary war, and a prominent planter in Virginia. The mother of our subject, *nee* Chloe Glascock, was also a native of Virginia, and both families were of English descent. Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Anderson had two sons: Washington, our subject, and John, who died in 1849, on the Guadalupe river, having been a lawyer by

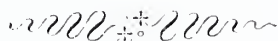
profession. The mother died when our subject was three years of age, and the father was again married. While in Texas the latter made his home at Webberville, where his practice extended for miles. His death occurred in 1849.

Washington Anderson, the subject of this sketch, came with his father to Texas in 1835, at the age of eighteen years, landing at Port Lavaca in February, of that year. During his first year he taught school nine miles from where Austin is now located, on the Colorado river. In February, 1836, he enlisted in the army of the Texas Revolution, took part in the battle of San Jacinto, and witnessed the capture of Santa Anna. Houston's command had only 718 men, and Santa Anna had 1,700, but the latter had over 700 men killed, and Houston had only two killed and twenty-seven wounded. Mr. Anderson was a member of the Rangers three months, and took part in a battle with the Indians, near where Taylor now stands, where they lost four valuable men. At one time the house in which he was staying, with seven others, was attacked by forty Indians. During the late war our subject served as Confederate Assessor. Mr. Anderson followed farming in Bastrop county, Texas, until 1845, when he came to this locality, then known as Milam district, and he erected the sixth house in this county. He afterward returned to Bastrop county, but in 1858 came again to this place. He assisted in the organization of Williamson county, served as County Commissioner during the founding of Georgetown, and has witnessed nearly the entire development of this county. His farm, which adjoins Round Rock he now rents.

Mr. Anderson was married in Bastrop county, Texas, in March, 1838, to Mary A. Glascock, who was born June 3, 1820, a



daughter of John Glascock, a native of Virginia. The father came to Texas in 1835, locating in Washington county, but afterward removed to Bastrop county, where he died about 1882, aged seventy-five years. He took an active part in public affairs, and, although he did not participate in the Texas Revolution, took part in many skirmishes with the Mexicans, among them being the Cordiway fight. Two of his sons served through the Mexican war of 1847-'48. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have had two children,—Chloe, who married R. H. Taliaferro, a Baptist minister, died in 1885, leaving five children; and the youngest child died in infancy. Mr. Anderson has always taken an active interest in public affairs, voting with the Democratic party. Religiously, both he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church.



CHARLES A. W. SNOW, a farmer of Williamson county, is a son of Isaac and Sarah G. (Harrison) Snow. Over 200 years ago two brothers named Snow came from England to America, and they were the first of the family in this country. One settled in Salem, in the Massachusetts colony, and the other in Connecticut. The latter was a direct ancestor of our subject. The family afterward became residents of Providence, Rhode Island, our subject's great-grandfather's farm having been what is now the west side of that city. He was a Captain in the Revolutionary war, and took a prominent part in the stirring events of that time. John Snow, the grandfather of our subject, continued to reside in Rhode Island until his death, which occurred in 1848. He served as clerk in the Manufacturers' and Merchants' Bank for fifty years. Isaac Snow

was born and reared in that State, but when a young man emigrated to Georgia, where he was married, and then located in McIntosh county. He was a merchant and Postmaster at Darien, that county, the remainder of his life. Mr. Snow was a good business man, a leader of the Democratic party, and was frequently connected with the city government, as Mayor and Conneilman. He was also a prominent Mason, and although not a member of any church was an active worker in the Presbyterian denomination. One of his relatives, Elder Joseph Snow, was a minister in the Presbyterian Church, and was one of the sixteen who withdrew from the old John Cotton congregation in 1746. He then established the Congregational Church, was the first pastor, and remained there about fifty years. The mother of our subject, *nee* Sarah G. Harrison, was born and raised in McIntosh county, Georgia, and descended from the French Huguenot stock. Her father, a physician by profession, was born in Virginia, and was one of the same family of Harrisons as William Henry Harrison, President of the United States. Other members of the family were prominent in professional circles. Mrs. Snow, when a girl, studied medicine under the direction of her father and practiced for a time in her neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Snow were the parents of sixteen children, only six of whom grew to years of maturity,—Charles A., the subject of this sketch; William L., of Providence, Rhode Island; Alice, widow of William H. Hickman, of Jacksonville, Florida; Henry Y., of Atlanta, Georgia; Jane E., now Mrs. McMillan, and also of that city; and Horace C., deceased. The father died in 1841, and the mother in 1889.

Charles A. Snow was born in McIntosh Georgia, August 20, 1825. When about





fourteen years of age he was sent to Providence, Rhode Island, and lived with his grandfather until his marriage, receiving his education in the schools of that city. At the age of sixteen years he entered a drug store; in 1846 continued the same occupation in Augusta, Georgia; one year later returned to his former employer; and in 1848 engaged in the drug business in Providence, under the firm name of Snow & Mason. Four years afterward he sold his interest in the store to his partner, and returned to his widowed mother in Georgia, but after two years there his health failed and he determined to come West. In 1856 Mr. Snow landed in Cass county, Missouri, where he was among the pioneer settlers, and while there did his first farming. In 1877 he came to Williamson county, Texas, spent the first seven years near Hutto, and then came to his present location, seventeen miles northwest of Georgetown. He owns a ranch of 910 acres, 140 acres cultivated, and all under fence. In addition to general farming, he is also giving considerable attention to stock-raising. During the late war Mr. Snow resided in Cass county, Missouri, where he often saw men taken from their homes and shot, and fights occurred on his own farm. With other citizens, he was ordered to remove from the county, and he went to his property in Kansas. He remained there one year, and took part in the chase after Quantrell, the noted guerrilla chief.

November 23, 1847, in Providence, Rhode Island, Mr. Snow was united in marriage to Amanda M. F. Hazard, who was born and reared in that city, as was also her father. The family were English Quakers in early times, and were originally from New Hampshire. Mr. and Mrs. Snow have had ten children, namely: James B.; Jane E., Will-

iam and Henry, deceased; C. L. of Burnet county, Texas; C. S., who resides on his father's farm; Harriet, wife of A. R. Smith, of Burnet; William, deceased; John C., Burnet county; and Alice E., at home. Our subject is a Democrat in political matters, has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church since sixteen years of age, and has been identified with the Grange since its organization.



**JOHN H. BICKETT.**—In the old State of South Carolina, which has furnished to the New Southwest so many men of sterling worth and ability, John H. Bickett, the present popular and efficient Sheriff of Milam county, was born March 19, 1861. He bears the Christian name of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather, being fourth in descent from John Bickett, a native of Ireland, who came to this country some time during the last century and settled in Abbeville district, South Carolina. This John Bickett, as tradition has it, was a man of industrious, thrifty habits and an active, ingenious mind, a planter by occupation and the builder of the first gristmill in the locality where he settled. The father and grandfather of John H. Bickett were born in Abbeville district, and there the grandfather died, a man of some means, but no record beyond that of a useful citizen. The father was killed in the late war, at the battle of Malvern Hill, July 29, 1864, being a member of the Nineteenth South Carolina Regiment. He was a brave soldier and good citizen. The mother of John H. Bickett bore the maiden name of Sarah Weed, and was a daughter of Andrew J. Weed, a South Carolina planter of Abbeville district. The Weeds, like the Bicketts,



were among the early settlers of that district, and in ante-bellum days were people of means. But the ravages of the Civil war reduced their estates, and this, added to the loss of her husband, left the mother of the subject of this sketch in straitened circumstances. Her courage and industry were often put to the test in providing for her four small children. Of necessity the education which they received was restricted to such as they could get in the local public schools, and even of this the share that fell to John H. was obtained in fragments and at irregular intervals, his time being taken up mostly with his duties on the farm. Tiring of this state of things and being desirous of doing something for himself, he went to a friend one day and borrowed \$25, added to it \$13 of his own money, being all he had, and put the whole of it into a railroad ticket, boarded the cars and came to Texas. His ticket reached to Hearne, in Robertson county. From that point he continued his way west afoot, crossing the Brazos and striking into Milam county.

He began at once to inquire for work along the route and found his first job at Maysville, in this county, where he took employment at \$12.50 a month on a farm. This was in December, 1879. For four years he made that his home and was variously engaged, mostly at farm labor, when, in 1883, he came to Cameron and clerked for a year and a half in a store for B. Vogel, and then about the same length of time for R. F. Pool. January 1, 1887, he went into the Sheriff's office as deputy under A. J. Lewis, and held this position until 1890, when, in a "free-for-all race," where there were six candidates in the field, he was elected Sheriff by a vote of 2,257 out of a total vote of 4,140. He gave such satisfaction that he was made the Demo-

cratic nominee for the office in August, 1892, by acclamation, and in November following was elected, by a vote of 2,907 out of a total vote of 4,837 cast. It is the generally expressed opinion among the people of Milam county that John Bickett is one of the best Sheriffs they ever had. His courage, industry and executive skill make him a model officer in a position like that of Sheriff, which requires the constant exercise of these qualities.

Mr. Bickett married in Brenham, this State, September 10, 1891, Miss Minnie Muse, daughter of Dr. J. S. Muse and sister of Judge E. B. Muse, present County Judge of Milam county.



**N**HESTER, deceased, was born near Hamburg, Germany, September 17, 1835, a son of John and Isabella Hester, natives also of that country. He learned the druggist's trade in his native place, and in 1855 emigrated to Texas, locating in Lexington, Lee county. He was employed as clerk for Titus Mundine several years, and at the opening of the late war he enlisted as a private in Gray's company of cavalry, in which he served two years. After returning from the war Mr. Hester continued the sheep industry, in which he had engaged just prior to that struggle. Two years afterward he sold his sheep and embarked in the drug business, to which he later added a general mercantile stock, and his business prospered and enlarged until he became the leading merchant in his section. Mr. Hester was a man of strong character, shrewd in business and of tireless energy. He was a true Christian, and of a generous nature, yielding to the demands of the poor and of



every good cause with a feeling akin to pleasure. No person was ever turned from his door empty-handed. He was liberal in his donations to his church, the Missionary Baptist, and was always foremost in advancing its interests. He died October 17, 1889, after an illness of only three weeks.

Mr. Hester was married October 9, 1859, in Bastrop county, to Louisa Wolf, who came with relatives from Dessau, Germany, to this country in 1857. She was a daughter of Leopold and Leopoldina Wolf. The parents came to America in 1884, and made their home with their daughter, Mrs. Hester. Mr. and Mrs. Hester had ten children, viz.: Flora, wife of Professor Clarence Steel, of Goliad, Texas; Mary, now Mrs. Bayless Fletcher, of Lexington; Elvira, wife of Max McRee, of Lee county; Isabella; Germania, the wife of W. Dowdy of Lexington; and Dora, Bismark, Minnie, Tina and Clara, at home. Since her husband's death, Mrs. Hester has continued the management of the business. The trade amounts to about \$40,000 to \$50,000 annually, and represents the leading mercantile establishment in Lexington. The following was written at the death of Mr. Hester:—

“On Thursday, the 17th inst., Mr. N. Hester breathed his last at his residence in this place, after a lingering illness of several weeks. Mr. Nicolaus Hester was born at the village of Hedel, Holstein, Germany, September 17, 1835. Near his native village was the Elbe river, covered with the shipping of a rising empire. Early in life young Nicolaus conceived the idea of becoming a sailor. An opportunity was soon offered him to realize the fondest hopes of his adventurous spirit. An uncle, who owned and commanded a vessel, offered to take him on a voyage to Archangel. The young sailor enjoyed

the voyage across the North Sea, but out upon the Atlantic, near the Loffoden islands, their vessel encountered a terrible storm, and came near being wrecked upon the rocks off the western coast of Norway. The gallant little ship weathered the storm, however, and in due time rounded North Cape with the midnight sun shining low in the southern sky. For weeks during this long voyage the Arctic day prevailed, and the sun never set. Taking a cargo of furs at Archangel, they returned by the same route. During this voyage of several months the crew endured hardships which are unknown to the crews of modern ships, and which completely cured the truant sailor of his nautical proclivities. He then entered a large drug establishment at Altona, where he remained until he acquired a thorough knowledge of pharmacy.

“Again his thirst for adventure asserted itself, and in 1856 he sailed for North America. Landing at New Orleans, he came West, seeking a home in the new State of Texas. Mr. Hester settled at Lexington, where he found ready employment as a clerk. Here he became acquainted with Miss Louise Wolf, whom he married October 9, 1859. Under the ministry of the late Rev. Cole, he and Mrs. Hester united with the Baptist Church at this place.

“Mr. Hester's education was essentially European, and he was greatly opposed to the institution of slavery. Yet, when the great Civil war came, he was too good a citizen to desert the cherished cause of his adopted country, and entered the Confederate army, in which he served as faithfully as any man who wore the gray. When the Southern flag was furled he came home, his earnings spent, a poor Confederate soldier. For a time he engaged in farming, but without success. Again he found employment in a drug store





at this place, and soon saved enough to begin a small business of his own. His success in business was phenomenal. In a few years he added a stock of general merchandise to his drug store, and at the time of his death, and for many years previous, was one of the most prominent merchants in this county. Mrs. Hester, who survives him, was his companion in adversity, and has contributed largely to his prosperity.

"Mr. Hester was a most devoted Christian, and contributed largely to all religious, charitable and educational objects. He was justly proud of his nationality, and assisted many of his countrymen to come to Texas and to live after landing here. His generosity knew no bounds. He was idolized by his family, and extended his kindness to everybody, regardless of nationality, race or color. The funeral procession was one of the largest that has ever issued from our village. His remains were interred at Early Chapel burying-ground, by the Knights of Honor of Lexington and Giddings lodges. Rev. G. Ubantke preached an impressive discourse at the grave. The deceased leaves a widow, nine daughters, one son and a brother and sister at Hamburg to mourn his death."



**D**R. THOMAS A. POPE.—More than two centuries ago there came from England and settled in Virginia one Thompson Pope, who had three sons. One of these sons in early life went to Massachusetts, another to Georgia, while the third remained in Virginia. Each of these three men have many descendants scattered throughout the Union. One of them, belonging to the Virginia branch, a native of that State, married there in 1783, just after leaving the

Continental army, and fifteen years later with his family emigrated to Lawrence county, Indiana, where in 1811 Thompson Pope, the youngest of eight boys, was born. When Thompson Pope was eight years old his father died, and shortly afterward his mother. The elder boys with one exception moved westward. Thompson while still a youth went to Kentucky, where in 1834 he married Nancy Admire, of Oldham county, that State, whose father was born in South Carolina, and was of French descent. In 1840 Thompson Pope with his family emigrated to Macoupin county, Illinois, and here, on June 26, 1847, Thomas A. Pope, the seventh child, was born. There were four children younger than Thomas, making eleven children, of whom six are still living. The father died in 1862. The mother, aged seventy-eight, is still hale and hearty, and lives with a daughter in Kansas.

Most of the early life of the subject of this sketch was spent in the schoolroom, his father being exceedingly anxious to educate his children; but in August, 1861, the fourteen-year-old boy determined to see something of the war that was then enveloping the southern half of the Union, and ran away from home, going to St. Louis, where it was his intention to enlist in the Federal army. But meeting at that place an acquaintance who then held the position of assistant quartermaster, young Pope was offered and accepted a place in his office, which gave him an opportunity of being with the army but not in the ranks. In company with his superior officer he left St. Louis early in September, 1861, on an expedition up the Missouri river, the objective point of which was Lexington, that State. On reaching that place, however, they found it besieged by the Confederates under General Price, and got



only near enough to witness part of the battle from the opposite side of the river. With General Fremont's command he spent the winter of 1861-'62 in western Missouri, and in the spring of 1862 was present at the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, where the Union army under Curtis and Sigel won the victory over McCulloch and Price. Young Pope then accompanied Curtis' army to Helena, Arkansas, and in November, 1862, left the army and returned to St. Louis. He remained there but a short time, when he went to Logansport, Indiana, for the purpose of completing his education, but after the excitement of the past year it was impossible to be contented in the quiet seclusion of the school-room, and after a month or so spent in school he enlisted in the Forty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served from the siege of Vicksburg through Banks' campaign in Louisiana and Burbridge's in Kentucky and Virginia, until the regiment was mustered out of service at Louisville, Kentucky, September 11, 1865.

Immediately afterward he went to Madison University, New York, where he spent two years. Then he returned to Indiana, and after a short season there he went to the far West and spent a year in Colorado and Montana. Like many others, his westward venture was not a success, and instead of having, as he had hoped, sufficient money to return to school, he, as soon as he reached civilization, which was then western Iowa, had to take a school and teach it for a livelihood.

In 1870 he left Iowa and came to Texas. At that time there was no railroad connection with the north and west, and the only way to reach Texas was by the water route, via New Orleans, or by stage. Passing through Galveston and Houston he went on to Navarro county, and at Spring Hill opened

a private school, which he taught until January, 1872, when he was appointed superintendent of public schools in and for Milam and Burleson counties, and organized the first free schools in those counties. In 1873 a change in the school law abolished the office he held.

On February 18, 1874, he married Miss Martha A. McCown, daughter of J. W. McCown, of Milam county, Texas. This family, whose history may be found elsewhere in this volume, has been well and favorably known in Texas since some time in 1836, when J. W. McCown, Sr., brought his family from Tennessee and settled in Washington county, this State. The mother of Miss McCown was a daughter of Josiah W. Turnham, one of the first settlers of Milam county, and a cousin of ex-Governor L. S. Ross.

In 1877 Thomas A. Pope graduated with honors at the Louisville Medical College, having been selected the class orator.

On returning to Texas he located at Wilderville, in Falls county, where he secured a large and lucrative practice, which constantly increased until he left there in 1886 to locate in Cameron, his present place of residence. His principal object in moving to Cameron was to educate his children. Since coming to this place he has succeeded in establishing for himself a large practice, the most extensive in the county. No one has labored harder to deserve the confidence of the people by proficiency in his profession than Dr. Pope. Even in the midst of a large and growing practice, he finds time every year or so to attend the schools and hospitals in the larger cities for the purpose of keeping up with the progress that is constantly being made in the science and practice of medicine. With such habits of study, coupled with natural ability of a high order, his advance in



his profession has been rapid and confirmed, and he stands at this time in the front ranks, possessing the full confidence of the laity and the respect and esteem of his professional brethren.

The Doctor has four children, the two older girls, the two younger boys; and these bright children and a pleasant home presided over with grace, dignity and kindness by an intelligent and most estimable wife, make his home life a source of never-failing happiness.

Dr. Pope is company surgeon at Cameron for the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway and the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway; is president of the Board of Examiners (Medical) of the Twentieth Judicial District, and is ex-president of the Milam County Medical Society.

While not a politician, the Doctor has a large influence with the voters of his county, and his assistance is eagerly sought by those who aspire to office in the county or district. In 1892 he was a delegate to the National Republican convention at Minneapolis.



**W** A. SMITH, a farmer in Williamson county, is a son of P. P. and Martha J. (Berryman) Smith. The father was born in Buckingham county, Virginia, in 1796, was there married in 1824, and afterward moved to Cumberland county, that State, where he died in 1847. He was a Baptist clergyman by profession, and attained such a prominent position in church circles that his life was written and published in book form. He made a fine reputation as a revivalist. The Berrymans were also a noted family in Virginia, were very wealthy, and prominent in professional circles. Many members of the family were ministers

in the Baptist church. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were the parents of eight children,—Adeline, deceased; Susan, deceased; Decker, who died in a Federal prison during the late war; W. A., the subject of this sketch; George L., a farmer and miner of Centerville, Colorado; Elizabeth, deceased; Martha J., wife of Captain George W. Minor, of Columbia, Cumberland county, Virginia; and Mary M., deceased. After the father's death the mother married R. R. Minor, a noted Baptist minister. She died in 1879.

W. A. Smith was born in Buckingham county, Virginia, September 5, 1831. At the age of twenty-one years he engaged in mercantile pursuits in Jackson, Missouri, where he remained four years; then taught school in St. Louis county, that State, three years; next followed the same occupation in Johnson county two years, and then entered the Missouri State troops, which afterward became a part of the regular Confederate army, as a member of Captain King's company, Bateman's regiment. Mr. Smith took part in the battles of Carthage and Oak Hill, Missouri, and Elkhorn, Arkansas, soon after which he was appointed hospital steward, and served in that capacity until the close of the struggle. He then came to this State, taught school in Florence fourteen years, and in 1881 moved to his present location. He now owns 240 acres of good land, 140 acres of which are cultivated. In his political relations, he votes with the Democratic party, and during the latter part of 1870 was elected County Superintendent of Schools, and has also served as County Commissioner six years, for the Third district.

Mr. Smith was married in Jackson, Missouri, to Susan Brevard, who died one year later. They had one child, also now deceased. He was again married, March 17,



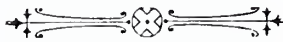




*Saml A. Eastley*



1867, in Florence, to Mrs. Martha M. Love, *nee* Stapp, who was born in Overton county, Tennessee, and came to Texas with her parents in 1850, at the age of five years. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have had eight children,—W. A., Decker, Joshua (deceased), Sallie M., Horace and Homer (twins), Birdie M. and Elmer B. Our subject is a Master Mason, and a member of the Odd Fellows order. Religiously, he is a member of the Baptist church.



COLONEL SAM A. EASLEY, a farmer and sheep-raiser of Williamson county, is a grandson of Robert Easley, who was a native of Virginia but who moved to South Carolina in 1786. He served as a private in the Revolutionary war, and was an influential planter and slave-owner. His son, John Easley, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia, and when about eight years of age, went to South Carolina with his parents, being reared and educated in that State. He married Miss Elizabeth King, a daughter of John King, of English descent, and Orderly Sergeant in Washington's life guard during the Revolutionary war. His death occurred in South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. John Easley had six children, viz.: John, Jr., deceased at the age of thirty years; William, who served as Major of a cavalry company during the late war, and who died in South Carolina in 1872, leaving a family; Sam A., our subject; Robert, who came to Williamson county, Texas, in 1853, and who died in 1856, leaving a wife and two children; Mary, deceased in November, 1890, was the wife of D. McSloan, who also came in 1853 to this county, where he still resides; and Martha, wife of William Wilcox, was married in

Texas, while here on a visit, and her death occurred in 1863. Mr. Easley died at the old homestead in 1862, and his wife died in Texas, in 1874.

Colonel S. A. Easley, the subject of this sketch, came overland to Texas in 1853, and purchased in Williamson county, 3,350 acres of land, which he immediately began improving. He has since sold a part of this tract; has also given his children land, but still owns 1,600 acres. He erected the first cotton gin in the county, and during his second year here purchased two Spanish jacks and two stallions, and engaged in the stock business. In 1858 he began sheep-raising, and in 1860 had increased his herd to several thousand head. Mr. Easley has his farm under a fine state of cultivation, and has about 1,000 head of sheep and other stock. In 1863 he assisted in raising for the State service a regiment of 100-day men, and was made Colonel of the same. At the expiration of his term of service he selected a company from the regiment. He was made Captain of this cavalry company, and was engaged in picket duty on the beach near Galveston, where he was located at the close of the struggle. After returning home, Mr. Easley freed about fifty slaves, since which time he has rented a part of his land, and farmed the remainder by hired help.

He was united in marriage June 8, 1848, to Miss Elizabeth Sloan, who was born in South Carolina, May 11, 1823, a daughter of Thomas and Nancy Sloan, natives also of that State. The father has the reputation of being the finest planter in his district. Mr. and Mrs. Easley have had eight children, six now living,—Mamie, wife of D. P. Wilcox, a farmer of Williamson county; Samuel A., formerly a merchant and sheep-raiser in Crockett county, but now a farmer of this



county; Nannie, wife of M. Barnell, a tinner of Taylor; Lizzie, who married Fred Turner, also a farmer of this county; Sonthey, wife of J. L. Root, a dry-goods merchant of Taylor; and Florence, wife of Harry Durrett, engaged in the hardware trade at Wichita Falls, Texas. Mr. Easley is independent in local politics, and was formerly identified with the Democratic party, but during later years has cast his vote with the Prohibition party. In 1874 he was elected a member of the Legislature, his district comprising seven or eight counties. Socially, he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and religiously both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



**JULIUS F. COBB.**—The subject of this sketch is a native of Georgia and a member of that distinguished family of Cobbs who have figured so conspicuously in the history of Georgia for the past three-quarters of a century. His father, Frank A. Cobb, was a Georgian by birth and spent his entire life in his native State, dying at Clifton, Alabama, in 1860, while yet a comparatively young man. He was a teacher by profession, a man of scholarly taste and superior intellectual attainments.

The mother of Julius F. Cobb was a Georgia-born lady, her maiden name being Mary J. Collier. She is still living, being a resident of Caldwell, where she makes her home with her son, the subject of this sketch.

Julius F. Cobb is the only child of Frank A. and Mary J. Cobb, and was born in Chattahoochee county, Georgia, October 15, 1859. He was reared in his native county and in Russell county, Alabama, whither his mother moved when he was about ten years old. His

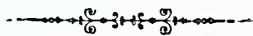
education was obtained in the country schools of the localities where he grew up, being completed by a business course in a school at Dawson, Georgia. From this school he went to Opelika, Alabama, where he secured a clerkship with Kahn & Bloomingfelt, merchants, with whom he remained until coming to Texas in February, 1881. He came to this State by the advice and through the influence of his uncle, Professor J. P. Collier, then superintendent of the public schools at Caldwell, at which place young Cobb located. He began his business career in this town as a clerk for W. G. Wilkins, with whom he continued about a year, when Wilkins sold out to A. F. Carroll & Company. With this firm Mr. Cobb remained until August, 1886, when, having married and with the aid of his wife saved between \$400 and \$500, he opened a small millinery and notion store. Mrs. Cobb had charge of the business during the first two years, Mr. Cobb being the local agent of Wells-Fargo Express Company, to the business of which and to buying cotton he gave his attention. The sales of the store for the first year were about \$7,000; the second year they were a little better. Then, in July, 1888, D. P. Moser became a partner in the business, putting in \$5,000, at which time the lines were extended to include ladies' and gentlemen's fine dress goods and furnishings of all kinds. The business ran prosperously under the firm name of Moser & Cobb until January 1, 1890, when Mr. Cobb bought Mr. Moser's interest, assuming exclusive ownership and control which he has since held and exercised. Mr. Cobb is rated at \$10,000, but is safely worth \$12,500. He does a business of \$35,000 a year, two-thirds of which is for cash. He carries one of the cleanest, neatest, best-kept stocks to be found in any town of comparable population in





Texas, and is doing a safe, conservative but constantly increasing business. Strict attention to the demands of his trade, a reputation for fair dealing, the best goods for the lowest living prices and a competent corps of clerks, backed by vigorous brains, keen business foresight, tact and good management have made this business what it is and have placed it on a basis where it gives promise of excelling its past record by more than it would be discreet here to say.

Mrs. Cobb who has given the business her personal attention from the first and who has rendered most efficient aid in building it up to its present standard, was born in Mississippi, but reared in Burleson county, Texas, where she was brought by her parents while but a child. Her maiden name was Rowena Davidson, she being a daughter of William Davidson, a native of Mississippi and a relative of the Davidsons of that State. Mr. and Mrs. Cobb were married October 15, 1884. Both are members of the Baptist Church and Mr. Cobb is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Knights and Ladies of Honor.



**JOSHUA WILSON McCOWN, JR.—**  
For fifty-six years the subject of this sketch has resided in Texas, most of the time in Milam county. It is needless to say that he is a pioneer and an early settler of the county. Mr. McCown traces his ancestry back to the land of song and story, heroism and romance,—Scotland,—from which country his progenitors emigrated some time during the last century to America and settled in Pennsylvania. There his paternal grandfather, Alexander McCown, was born, reared, twice married (his first

wife dying), and moved in 1784 to Kentucky, settling in what is now Bardstown, Nelson county. He was the father of a large family of children, sixteen of whom were sons and grew up.

Joshua Wilson McCown, Sr., the father of the subject of this sketch, was one of this number. He was born in Bardstown, February 5, 1804, and was there reared. He went to Tennessee when a young man and in Columbia, that State, on April 22, 1828, married Martha Shapard, a native of Tennessee, born April, 1808. He resided in Tennessee until 1837, when he moved to Texas and settled in Washington county, where he lived until 1848, at which date he came to Cameron, Milam county, where, for several years he was engaged in the mercantile business. Later he lived at Honston and at other points in the State, and is still living, being now a resident of Whitney, Hill county. He has been twice married and has raised to maturity fourteen children. His first wife died at Honston in 1852, leaving sixteen children, of whom Joshua Wilson McCown, Jr., the eldest, is the subject of this memoir.

He was born in Murfreesborough, Tennessee, July 8, 1830. Being brought to Texas at the age of seven by his parents, he was reared in Washington county. His boyhood and youth were passed on the farm. In 1852 he married Margaret Chalmers of Waco, who died shortly afterward without issue. May, 1854, he married Susan, a daughter of Josiah J. and Ann Turnham, of Milam county.

Mr. Turnham was one of the first settlers of this county, moving here from Missouri, in company with Giles O. Sullivan, another of the pioneers of the county, and settling at Nashville in 1840. In the spring of 1842



he settled about a mile and a half east of the present site of Cameron, where and in which vicinity he subsequently made his home until his death, which occurred in September, 1863. His wife died in May, 1859. They were industrious, kind, good people, and Milam county is indebted to them for some of its best citizens. They had nine children, all of whom become grown, Mrs. McCown being the eldest. She was born in Missouri and was five years old when her parents moved to Milam county. Here she was reared, being brought up on the frontier and and knowing from experience all the privations and disadvantages of frontier life. She however is one of those women to whom though reared in a wilderness men bow and pay willing homage, being a great favorite with the old settlers and in fact with all who know her. Mr. and Mrs. McCown reside now on the old Turnham homestead, and in a house erected in 1852 by Mrs. McCown's father, being the second brick house built north of the old San Antonio road and west of the Trinity river. It was built of bricks made on the place, and is still in a good state of preservation. Here they have raised their family of seven children, this being the number that reached maturity out of the twelve born to them. They are: Martha Ann, the wife of Dr. Thomas A. Pope of Cameron; Susan, the wife of T. G. Sampson of Milam county; James Coleman, deceased; Margaret Chalmers, the wife of Dr. V. E. H. Reed of Cameron; Joshua Wilson, deceased; Robert Lee and "Sul" Ross.

Mr. McCown has never been in public life, though probably one of the best known men in Milam county, and one whose knowledge and business experience would amply fit him for the successful discharge of the duties of any office to which he might

be called. But his tastes do not run in that direction. He owns a large farm near Cameron, situated on Little river, to which he devotes his time and attention. He served in the Confederate army during the late war, being Master of Transportation west of the Mississippi till the fall of Vicksburg, and then he was engaged in trade operations with Mexico till the close of the war. He has been a life-long Democrat and is thoroughly loyal to the principles of his party. To Texas and all its interests and enterprises he is devoted with that impulsive enthusiasm and arduous attachment which characterizes those who have followed the State through its struggles from a few straggling settlements on the frontier to its present proud and prosperous condition of Statehood. Mr. McCown knew most of the early Texans of note, with many of whom he was brought in contact at one time and another during his youth and early manhood. He is full of reminiscences of early days in Texas, and if the scope of this article permitted numbers of these might be inserted here to the interest and edification of the readers of this volume. Two or three of a local nature will be given, because they fit so appropriately in this place.

"Speaking of early events in Milam county," said Mr. McCown, "I know of no single event that attracted so much attention at the time or was the source of more amusement than what is known among the old settlers as 'The trip of the Washington,' being the ascent up Little river of the first and only steamer that ever plowed the waters of that stream. The trip was made in the winter of 1850-'51, and was the conception of my father, who was then engaged in business in Cameron. It seems that he had mentioned several times to some of his ac-



quaintances the possibility of navigating Little river with small boats during the winter freshets, but his suggestions had generally met with ridicule. At last, just after a particularly heavy rain, when the river was considerably swollen and gave promise of remaining up several days, he hastily constructed a skiff and put out for the lower Brazos country in search of a steamer to make the attempt. He secured one at Washington, called 'The Washington,' the property of Captain Jo. Woods and commanded by Captain Hatfield. The trip was undertaken on the payment of a bonus of \$500 and a guaranteed amount of freight at stipulated rates. The boat was loaded with a cargo of merchandise, consisting of groceries, provisions and whisky, and the ascent begun. It did not excite much interest along the Brazos, but when Little river was reached the sound of a steam whistle, never heard before in these parts, instantly attracted attention, and when it came to be known that a real, live steamer, duly equipped and fully loaded with merchandise, was in the river making its way to Cameron, curiosity quickened into interest and interest grew into excitement, general and prolonged. My father, who was enjoying something of a personal triumph in the success of the enterprise, spared no pains to spread the news as to what was going on. Word passed rapidly from house to house, and, it being at a time of year when the people were idle, crowds soon began to flock to the river banks from all directions. Men, women and children, all ages, sexes and conditions, in all stages of dress and undress—a motley company of curiosity seekers—came pouring out from the settlements. As the Washington puffed and wriggled along the winding stream,

dodging a lot of drift-wood here and clearing a sharp angle there, knots of sight-seers would greet it with a great profusion of shouts and hurrahs, and much waving of wool hats and calico bonnets and aprons. Passengers were taken on at each stop, any one being at liberty to ride, and when stops were not made some of the more ambitious swam out into the river on horseback and climbed on the steamer while in motion. In this way the boat rapidly filled up until it became a mass of surging, shouting, rollicking humanity. It stopped when it reached the shoals, about two miles and a half east of Cameron and near where I now live, was made fast to a tree, and, in accordance with instructions, the decks were cleared and a general jubilee of feasting and dancing set in. For two days and nights this went on until all were surfeited with fun and frolic, when the Captain cleared away the debris, turned the nozzle of the Washington down stream and glided back into the waters of the Brazos. The event left a lasting impression on the settlers and its incidents afforded topics for conversation for a long time afterward."

"Upon another occasion," said Mr. McCown, "when Little river was on one of its periodical tears, an incident happened which was the source of a good deal of amusement among the few settlers who were then here. Three men—Lee Davis, George Chapman and Bit-nose Robinson—were out in a canoe on some sort of a nautical expedition when by some mischance their little craft was upset and got away from them. Little river then, as now, was no respecter of property rights, and frequently left its channel and wandered around at will. On the occasion mentioned it had appropriated most of the surrounding country, so that Davis, Chapman and Robin-





son found themselves a considerable distance from land when their canoe capsized. Chapman, being an expert swimmer, made his way on driftwood and by swimming to the shore, while Davis and Robinson, being less expert, sought safety in the branches of a tree. Davis, younger and more vigorous than Robinson, secured the best perch, a large limb which at the juncture with the main body of the tree formed a fairly comfortable resting place. Robinson, taking what he could get, perched on a small limb which in a short time got, as he said, 'pretty sharp.' As the day wore on into the night, he asked Davis to swap seats with him for awhile, but Davis refused. Davis did not know how long they would have to stay there waiting for the waters to go down, and, knowing a good thing when he saw it, he was inclined to hold on to it. Urged by cold and fatigue Robinson kept up his importunities for a swap, recalling to Davis their friendship, their companionship in misery, his age, the possibility of his becoming so benumbed and tired as to fall off and drown right before Davis' eyes; but none of these things moved the callous-hearted Davis. He looked stolidly on the turbid waters, said nothing and continued to roost high. Finally Robinson said: 'Davis, I don't know whether we will ever live get out of this scrape or not, but if we do I am going to give you one of the all-firedest best whippings you ever got. If you ain't got any sense, nor reason nor decency about you, I'll take it on myself as your senior in years and your better in manhood, to beat some into you!'

"They survived, and the next day along in the afternoon the water had so far receded that they could wade out, which they did, clambering over logs and drift, and slippery banks and knolls, until they reached terra

firma. Once on a solid footing Robinson, though more dead than alive from cold, hunger, fatigue and loss of sleep, reminded Davis of the promise. The latter was very much disposed to 'let by-gones be by-gones' and tried to make old 'Bit-nose' forget his threat with a profusion of promises of refreshments and friendship ever afterward; but 'Bit-nose' was a man of his word, and waiving all these things aside he admonished Davis 'to shed his linen,' at the same time, as he described it, 'peeling and rolling in' himself. He thrashed Davis all over the hillside, 'everlastingly walloping the yerth' with him as he afterward said; and everybody believed that he did it, because Davis never denied it."

Continuing in a reminiscent vein Mr. McCown said: "The citizens of Milam county have always been a fairly temperate people, not given, I believe, to over-indulgence; but men are men the world over, and I reckon the early settlers of this county liked a 'snort' of 'mountain dew' or something of the kind as well as the common run of men in other places. At any rate the first barrel of whisky that ever came across Little river created a wave of excitement that spread to the furthest fringe of the settlements, as I have heard some of the old ones tell, and afforded the means of one day's solid enjoyment in the midst of many of genuine hardship and privation. The liquor was brought overland in a 'carry-all' from old Nashville by a thrifty Dutchman named Kattenhorn. He made his first stop in the vicinity of Cameron, at the big springs just east of that place, that being, however, before there was any Cameron. The settlers then were scattered mostly along the river bottom and on the first tableland from a mile to a mile and a half east of the present county seat. As soon as Kattenhorn got into the settlements with his liquor



word passed around in the neighborhood, and a large delegation of the 'men folks' soon gathered at the big spring. Settlers were not flush with money in those days but they knew how to 'raise the wind' when occasion demanded as well as people of these times, and so a self-constituted committee on ways and means immediately set about to devise a plan whereby Kattenhorn's whisky could be transferred from Kattenhorn to the settlers and Kattenhorn properly remunerated for the same. After considering two or three schemes they finally drew up a joint promissory note, which was signed by each of the settlers, agreeing to pay Kattenhorn at a certain time a stated amount for the liquor, which he accepted and thereupon delivered to them the coveted article. They proceeded to divide it in equal lots, and after having imbibed a sufficient quantity to put them on their mettle they instituted a series of foot-races, the stake being a quart a race. They drank and ran and ran and drank until all were glorious full and happy, in which condition as many as could shouldered their jugs and started for home, some reaching there like Tam O'Shanter to meet the angry frowns of their 'gentle dames,' others falling by the wayside to dream of foot-races in fields elysian, while still others remained about the spring, where I suppose they made good use of its cooling waters when they awoke from their reveries. It should be mentioned that they paid the note to Kattenhorn at maturity."

"Yes, yes," said Mr. McCown, reaching for his pipe and package of Durham tobacco; "the early Texans were a great people, a peculiar people, perhaps, but a great and a good people.—honest, brave, generous, hospitable, true to their kind and faithful to their country. They were not a cultured

class as culture now goes; but in real manhood and womanhood I think they fairly filled the measure, and in their rough strength they were resistless, as history shows. Mexican, Indian, wild beast and all natural obstacles have gone down before them in their steady march toward the west. The world will perhaps never see their like again, as it will probably never see another Texas."



**A** W. DUNN, another one of the successful farmers of Burleson county, Texas, settled in this State in 1869, after a long career of travel. For a few years he lived in Milam county, where he had settled on 160 acres of land and developed a farm. In 1876 he sold out and came to his present location. After renting here for two years, he bought a tract of land, 450 acres in extent, thirty-five acres of which were under fence. He has sold off a portion of this land, but still retains 280 acres, 200 acres of which is fenced and 140 under cultivation, a portion of it being rented. His farm products are cotton, corn and oats. He raises sufficient stock to run the farm, and also some to sell.

Mr. Dunn was born near Raleigh, North Carolina, October 25, 1833. He was reared to farm life in Alabama and received a good education. He lived under the parental roof until he was twenty-two years of age, when, in the fall of 1855, he started for California to seek his fortune in the gold mines of that country. He mined there for three years and then returned to his home, after which, in 1860, he once more visited California, and while there entered a scouting company under the command of Captain Joe Walker. Subsequently he went to Arizona, where, in com-



pany with others, he discovered gold and started a camp, which camp afterward grew to be the capital of the State, Prescott. In the following year the Territory was organized, with Governor Goodwin at the head of affairs. About that time the Indians became very hostile and the Governor of the Territory and Governor Arney of New Mexico had a regiment raised under the command of Colonel Kit Carson for the protection of the settlers. Mr. Dunn served in this regiment three years—three years filled with many thrilling experiences and narrow escapes. He received several arrow wounds, only one of which, however, was severe. That was in his left shoulder, and he still carries the scar. After this Mr. Dunn made a visit to his folks, who, in the mean time had moved to Arkansas. He had married in Alabama, in 1860, and during his absence in the far West his wife came with her brother to Texas. Joining her in Milam county, he settled down to farming, as above stated.

Mr. Dunn is a son of Wylie and Martin (Horton) Dunn, both natives of North Carolina. His father was a farmer all through life; died in Arkansas, October 25, 1863. Grandfather Robert Dunn, also a native of North Carolina, served in the war of 1812, and his father was a Revolutionary soldier. The Dunn family are of Irish descent, but have long been residents of America, having come to this country with Sir Walter Raleigh. The subject of our sketch still has a large number of relatives in North Carolina. He is the oldest of nine children, five of whom are still living. Three of the family are in Arkansas, and Mr. Dunn has a brother, Sidney F., who lives neighbor to him.

He has been twice married. His first wife, whose maiden name was Sarah B. Mays, was a daughter of Joseph Mays, of South Caro-

lina. She died January 18, 1888, leaving four children, viz.: Nancy A., wife of W. B. Porter, a merchant of Sweetwater, Texas; and Joseph W., Isabella K. and Enoch M., at home. December 23, 1888, Mr. Dunn married a widow, Mrs. Mary Lovelace, daughter of William Thorp, of Tennessee. Her father came to Texas at an early day and was engaged in farming here until the time of his death, dying when she was small. Her mother, *nee* Mary Porter, was a daughter of Benjamin Porter, who came to Texas in 1847. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn have two sons: Julius H. and Albert W., and by her first husband Mrs. Dunn has three children: W. C., Carry J. and George C. Lovelace.

He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and his political views are in harmony with Democratic principles.



JAMES ELLIOTT, a successful farmer of Williamson county, is a son of Patrick and Nancy (McGee) Elliott, natives of the north coast of Ireland. In 1830 the parents emigrated to this country, locating in Washington county, Pennsylvania, where the father died about one year later. The mother continued to reside there for some years among her relatives, the Lees, and finally married James Marquis. They located near Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where the husband subsequently died, and the mother then lived a widow until her death, in 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott were the parents of six children, viz.: Mary, deceased; Matthew, deceased; John, who came to this county with our subject, died in 1861, and his family still reside here; James, the subject of this sketch; William, deceased; and the youngest child, who died on the ocean when an infant.







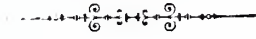
*J T Mutcherson*



James Elliott was born in the north part of Ireland, probably County Down, August 12, 1824. After his father's death he made his home with Robert McClellan, Sheriff of Washington county, Pennsylvania, until eighteen years of age, and then went to his mother in Ohio. While there he served several years at the carpenter's trade with David Randolph, a noted contractor and builder, but before his term of service had expired, in company with a young friend, Mr. Elliott concluded to take a trip West. While stopping at Sandusky, Ohio, on the way, the call for troops for the Mexican war was made, and he joined Company G, Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Woodruff, but did not participate in any battle. He then returned to Ohio, where he remained with his brother John in Enon Valley, Pennsylvania, until they came to Texas, in 1855. Mr. Elliott immediately purchased a pre-emption claim, and now owns about 2,200 acres of land, 300 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. At the opening of the late war he had his own and his brother's family to care for, and he served in the State militia, along the coast, under Magruder.

Mr. Elliott was married near Mt. Vernon, Knox county, Ohio, in May, 1851, to Mary A. Sellers. They have had no children of their own, but have raised two boys, George Marens and Andrew Anderson. The former is married and lives near our subject. Andrew Anderson was given a thorough education, graduated at the Southwestern University, at Georgetown, and then entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. After preaching a few years he entered the school-room, and is now teaching at San Marcos, Texas. Mr. Elliott votes with the Democratic party, and socially, is a Royal Arch Mason, holding the office of Treasurer

of both chapter and lodge. He was twice District Deputy G. M. and has often served as a delegate to the Grand Lodge. Religiously, he is a Steward in the Methodist Church.



**J**OSEPH T. McCUTCHEON.—As a native son of the Lone Star State, it is most fitting that the subject of this sketch should be given a prominent place in the present history. His parents, William and Elizabeth J. McCutcheon, are old and prominent residents of Texas, widely known and universally respected for their many estimable qualities of mind and heart.

The subject of this sketch was born in Travis county, January 4, 1847, and passed his youth on his father's farm, assisting in developing the wild land. His opportunities for obtaining an education were limited, as the schools in that day were both scarce and inferior. However, with slight instruction, he has by wide reading and extensive observation gained a vast fund of practical information, which answers his purpose far better than a large amount of theoretical knowledge not feasible of application. In 1861 the family removed to Lampasas county, and the dreadful vortex of civil strife swept into its insatiable current his older brothers, who entered the Confederate army. Thus, being the oldest son remaining at home, Joseph assumed the management of his father's stock, which occupation kept him away from home most of the time, occasionally in company with other stock-men, but often alone, and at a distance from any settlement. This life was lonely and dangerous, as at nearly every full moon the Indians made periodical visits to the vicinity, either to kill unprotected women and children, or to steal the



stock which roamed the prairies without a herdsman. In this manner, as a ranger and stockman, Mr. McCutcheon grew to manhood, his out-door life rendering him strong and athletic and inuring him to toil and hardships, while the constant mental exertion, foresight, judgment and reflection which his method of living engendered, developed his mind as thoroughly as the schools could have done.

In 1867 he began the life of a trader, making successful drives over the trails leading from Texas to the Western States and Territories in the years of 1867, 1869, 1870 and 1871. In 1870 he made two drives, going with one herd from Lavaca county to Abilene, Kansas, and with another from Williamson county to Baxter Springs, Kansas, reaching his home October 2 from his second drive. In 1871 he purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits, with reasonable success, continuing to be thus occupied until 1881, when he again took the trail for an older brother, driving a herd of cattle from Lavaca county first to Caldwell, Kansas, and thence to Newman's ranch, on the Niobrara river, in Nebraska, fifty miles from the Dakota line, returning to his home by way of Chicago and St. Louis. He then again resumed the occupation of farming and stock-raising, which he followed consecutively until 1893. He then discontinued stock-dealing, and, in connection with farming, has since followed the hardware business in Hutto, which undertaking has proved most satisfactory.

December 1, 1869, Mr. McCutcheon was married to Miss Annie C. Evans, a daughter of W. T. Evans, a pioneer of Texas. They have had eight children: William T., in business with his father; the second child died in infancy; Katie E., John, Joseph J.,

Beau Keneth, Mary S. and Annie Gertrude. Both Mr. and Mrs. McCutcheon are devout and useful members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Politically, Mr. McCutcheon is an ardent prohibition Democrat. He was an active member of the Farmers' Alliance from the time of its organization in Williamson county until 1891, when he withdrew at the expiration of his term of office as President of the County Alliance, by reason of political dissensions in that body. Fraternally, he is identified with the A. F. & A. M. and the A. O. U. W. He has been highly successful and uses his means to the best advantage in the education of his children and in surrounding his family with all home comforts, while his hand is ever open to the calls of charity and the aiding of all projects tending to advance the interests of his community and State.



**H**ENRY PRICE, a farmer of Williamson county, is a son of George W. and Annie (Atry) Price. The grandfather of our subject, Sterling Price, was born in North Carolina, and after the Revolutionary war moved to Virginia, where he grew to manhood. Early in the present century he emigrated to Perry county, Alabama, and afterward to Benton county, same State, where he subsequently died. George W. Price was born in Perry county, but was raised in Benton county. He was married, in the latter county in 1812, to Anna Atry, who was born and raised in St. Clair county, Alabama. They had eight children, viz.: Henry, our subject; Lucinda, now Mrs. Shelton, who resides near Pine Bluff, Arkansas; G. W., of Johnson county, Texas; Alexander, Martha, and Martin, deceased;





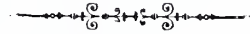


Angeline, now Mrs. Nichols, and residing near Glen Rose, Texas; and Andrew J., also of that place. The mother died in Benton, now Calhoun county, Alabama, in 1842, and the father afterward again married. His death occurred at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, in 1860. He was a farmer by occupation, and a member of the Baptist Church.

Henry Price, the subject of this sketch, was born in Benton county, Alabama, December 24, 1832. His mother died when he was ten years of age, and two years later he was bound out to a Mr. Meharg, who raised him as his own child. In 1854 he came to Texas, and first found employment in a brickyard in Austin, remaining there about two years. July 28, 1856, Mr. Price located on his present farm of 550 acres in Williamson county, ninety acres of the same being under a good state of cultivation. He remained on this place until in August, 1892, when he moved to Liberty Hill, for the purpose of educating his children. At the opening of the late war Mr. Price enlisted as a private in Company D, Thirtieth Texas Cavalry, served about four years in the Trans-Mississippi Department, and participated in the battles of Poison Springs, Roseville, Cabin Creek, Camden, etc. He was never wounded or captured.

In 1861, in Williamson county, our subject was united in marriage to Almira Renick. They had three children: T. W., of this county; Eva, wife of J. P. Hoskins; and Minnie, now Mrs. C. C. Fitzgerald, of Gonzales county, Texas. The wife and mother died in May, 1867, and July 30, 1874, in this county, Mr. Price married Margaret Sterling, of Irish descent, and raised in Johnson county, Missouri. Her paternal great-grandfather came from Ireland to the United States, locating in Kentucky, where the grandfather,

James Sterling, was raised. The latter afterward located in Tennessee, and later in Missouri. The parents of Mrs. Price had six children, four now living,—Jane, now Mrs. Gallat, of Caldwell county, Texas; Margaret, now Mrs. Price; Annie, now Mrs. Kirk, of Marble Falls, this State; and Ellen, wife of a Mr. Barton, of New Mexico. Our subject and wife have two children,—Neely and Nannie. In his political relations, Mr. Price affiliates with the Democratic party; socially, is a Master Mason; and religiously an Elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



**L**EWIS E. WALKER, who has recently taken up his abode in Williamson county, Texas, is a highly respected citizen of Rice's Crossing, and a most agreeable and popular gentleman. A brief sketch of his life is here appended:

As far as known by our subject the Walker family found its first home in Kentucky. It was there that Federal Walker, father of Lewis E., was born, in 1800. The famous county of Bourbon was his native county. There he grew to manhood and there he was permitted to get not more than a smattering of an education. His father was a farmer, and Federal learned well the business and followed it most profitably, when the responsibility of his own condition was thrust upon him. About the year Missouri took her position in the galaxy of States, Mr. Walker left his old "blue grass" home and settled on a New Madrid claim in Howard county, within the boundaries of the new-made State. Prosperity attended him in every effort here and he became one of the largest landed men in the county. He possessed great energy, but he did not dedicate it all to the use of his plant-



ations. In his youthful days he had attended school merely enough to breed in him an inordinate appetite for knowledge. This appetite he attempted to satiate. He surrounded himself with papers and magazines and posted himself on the current events and the progress of science and invention, and, incidentally, something of politics. Books were his favorite companions. He seemed to have no ambition to enter public life, and we presume never allowed his name to be used in connection with any office.

Federal Walker married Sallie Dunn, one of a family of eight children of Lewis Dunn. They had children, as follows: John, a farmer and for eight years State Auditor of Missouri; R. D., a farmer and a veteran of the Mexican war; Thomas, also a farmer; L. E.; Nannie, wife of Dr. Watt Lenore; and Mary. Federal Walker was the oldest of his father's children, the others being: Malinda, who married Dr. Charles Dawson; Permelia; George, a trader; and Jefferson, a planter.

Lewis E. Walker, our subject, was born in Howard county, Missouri, September 20, 1829, just nine years after his native State was dropped from the category of Territories. His opportunities for intellectual advancement were of the first order, but young Lewis was not endowed with a disposition that would submit to a sedentary life even for the brief period of six hours a day. There was no delight in the schoolroom for him. When admonished by his father as to the beauties and value of an education, his reply was, "Pa, I know enough." He remained at home until his majority was reached, when he embarked in the occupation of his father, and pursued it in his native county till 1873. He, like his father, was a slave owner; but he took no part in the struggle which led to the freedom of the slaves.

Mr. Walker sought Texas as a place of residence in 1873. He was first located in one of the Western counties and was engaged for a few years in the wool business, but for the past decade or more he has given his attention to the cultivation and improvement of his admirable tract of 300 acres. His home is beautiful and attractive, and is the abiding place of a worthy family. January, 29, 1850, Mr. Walker married Nancy, a daughter of Porter Jackman and *nee* Mary Arnold. Mr. and Mrs. Jackman had a family as follows: Mark, deceased; Elizabeth, who married John McKinney; John, deceased; Nancy; Hannah, the wife of N. G. Mitchel of Boone county; Mary, who wedded Mr. Nichols; William; Susan, who married F. McClure, of Sedalia, Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are the parents of Fayette, born October 17, 1852, now living with his father; C. C., born November 25, 1854, deceased September 13, 1891, leaving a wife and four children; W. C., born October, 1856, died in August, 1890, leaving a widow and five children; Sallie, died in 1880; Effie, who died in 1879; and Annie, who died in 1882. The oldest son, Fayette, married Miss Lucy Sims and they have two children.

The Walker family are contented and happy, as will be observed by a visit to their residence, and are a most worthy and desirable addition to the population of this great State.



**E** M. BEAN.—On the banks of the Potomac river, eighty miles west of the city of Baltimore, in Washington county, Maryland, Elwood M. Bean, son of Benjamin and Minerva (Resley) Bean, was born, on January 5, 1839. In the same place his parents were also born, and back through



several generations into the early settled families of that historic locality his ancestry runs. The McBeans, from which he descended on his father's side, were originally from Scotland; the Resleys from England. Both were strong religionists, the McBeans being staunch Presbyterians, the Resleys Episcopalians. Both were large land and slave owners, and lived in the splendid style that characterized the living of the well-to-do people of their class in ante-bellum days.

The death of his parents, the father in 1849 and the mother in 1855, together with reverses in private fortune, brought Elwood M. Bean in 1856 to Texas, then a youth just turning into his eighteenth year. His previous training had not been such as to fit him in the best possible manner for the rugged experiences that awaited him, but he was prepared in purpose for this and he took up the new life with readiness. Locating in Milam county, he went to work on a farm, where he was steadily and profitably employed until the opening of the late war. He entered the Confederate service in August, 1861, enlisting in Company G, Fifth Texas. He served with the Army of Northern Virginia, taking part in the peninsular campaign, the seven days' fight around Richmond, second Manassas, Boonesboro Mountains, Sharpsburg and on to Gettysburg, where he lost his right arm and was captured July 3, 1863. He lay in prison ten months in Baltimore, Fort McHenry and Point Lookout, when he was exchanged, placed in the reserve corps and sent West to report to General E. Kirby Smith, then commanding the Trans-Mississippi Department. Here, under authority from General J. B. Robinson, commanding the reserve corps of Texas, he raised a battalion from the counties of Washington, Burleson, Milam, Falls, Bell and McLennan,

of which he was commissioned Major. With this force, made up mostly of old men and boys to the number of about 400, Major Bean was rendezvousing at Moseley's Ferry on the Brazos, making active preparation to go to the front, when he received news of Lee's surrender, in April, 1865.

The war over, he took up his residence again in Milam county, where, in 1868, he married a daughter of one of the old citizens of the county, and for a number of years engaged in farming. In 1886 he became a candidate for County Assessor. A sharply contested race resulted in almost a tie vote, and the County Commissioners' Court, after two days' canvassing and deliberating, tendered the certificate of election to Major Bean, which he declined, with the request that it be given to his opponent, which was done. He then went into the County Clerk's office as Deputy under W. M. Baines, where he remained for two years, when he again became a candidate for the office of County Treasurer, to which he was elected by a safe majority. This was in 1888. In 1890 he was re-elected by a practically unanimous vote, and in 1892, in one of the most hotly contested races ever witnessed in the county, he received the largest vote polled in the county and beat his opponent something over 900 votes. Major Bean is a most efficient officer and a deservedly popular citizen. No man in Milam county has, or perhaps ever had, as firm a hold upon the people of the county as he has. His unaffected ways, his hearty manner and generous, impulsive nature have made him admired and beloved of all classes and conditions of men. Never a fellow-man, whatever his politics, color or condition in life, that asked a favor of him but it was granted, if it was in his power to grant it. While a Democrat in political faith, he is broad and





progressive in his views. The same catholicity of spirit also characterizes his way of thinking on social, religious and economic questions, his mind offering a generous hospitality to the thoughts of others and his heart beating in unison with the best impulses of the age.



**P**O. AND H. E. WILLSON, of the firm of Willson Brothers, proprietors of the Taylor Texan, of Taylor, are sons of H. I. and Elizabeth (Otwell) Willson, natives of Kentucky. They came to Texas in 1853, locating in Coryell county, but a short time afterward removed to Cherokee county, where they remained until the close of the late war. At the opening of that struggle Mr. Willson espoused the cause of the Southern States, and in 1861 joined Colonel Hnbard's regiment, was attached to General Walker's brigade, and was appointed Lieutenant of his company. He was never wounded or captured. After the close of hostilities he was engaged in school-teaching for some years, and then, being a civil engineer by profession, accepted a position from the Houston & Texas Central Railroad Company. He also located the road from Waco to Bremond, assisted in locating and surveying towns on the Houston & Texas Central railroad, and, on account of ill health, retired from railroad work in 1874. He afterward resumed school-teaching for a time. He was elected County Surveyor of Milam county in 1888. Mr. Willson now resides in Taylor, Texas. His first wife died in 1869. They had the following children: P. O., a member of the firm of Willson Brothers; Mattie L., wife of H. A. Crossett, of Jones county; H. E., the second member of the firm of Willson Brothers, Frank, deceased; and Fred W., of

Waco. In 1873 Mr. Willson again married, being united to Miss Allie Denman, a native of Calvert, Texas. They had three children: H. I., Olive D. and Johnie S.

P. O. Willson was born in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1853. He was educated at different points throughout Texas. In 1872 he was employed in the printing office of the Belton Journal, edited by Captain J. G. Batt, and there remained eight years. In 1880 he purchased the Belton Courier, but two years afterward his office was destroyed by fire, and he lost his entire possessions accumulated during ten years. Mr. Willson then accepted a position on the Cameron Herald, and for three years was editor-in-chief of that paper. In 1885 he started a job printing office in Rockdale, and September 1, 1886, in company with his brother, H. E. Willson, he purchased the Taylor Texan, forming the present partnership of Willson Brothers. This paper was at first conducted in a small room over the National bank, with a circulation of about 600, but in 1890 they erected their present magnificent two-story brick building on Broad street, where they now have one of the finest offices to be found in any small town in Central Texas. They have the celebrated Cranston steam power press. The building and machinery is valued at \$20,000, and the entire outfit was purchased in 1886 for \$750. The firm also owns considerable real estate in Taylor.

Mr. Wilson was married in 1883, to Miss Delia Goode, of Belton, Texas, a daughter of Dr. Goode, deceased, whose widow still resides in Belton. Mr. and Mrs. Willson have had four children; Roy, deceased; Herbert G.; Lottie and a babe unnamed. Mr. Willson is a member of the I. O. O. F., of this city, and both he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church.



H. E. Willson was born in Cherokee county, Texas, in 1858, and received his education at different places in Texas. At the age of twenty years he entered the printing office of the Belton Courier, under his brother, P. O. Willson, and there learned his trade. In 1886 he came to Taylor, and formed a partnership with his brother, as before mentioned. Mr. Willson was married in 1886, to Miss Ida Ross, a daughter of Mat and Catherine (Maxey) Ross. Her grandfather was one of the pioneer judges of the State and Republic of Texas, and was well known in the early history of this State. Our subject and wife have five children: Harold, Ross M., Elizabeth L., Margery and one unnamed. Mr. and Mrs. Willson are members of the Baptist Church, and the former also affiliates with the K. of H.



**C**ALVIN ROGERS HOLT.—More than a century ago, in the days of Daniel Boone, when the beautiful “barrens” and fertile valleys of the great Southwest were being rapidly filled with adventurous settlers from the older States, there arrived in central Kentucky one Drury Holt, who took up his residence in one of the numerous settlements then being formed and gave the strength and vigor of his manhood to the work of helping to subdue the savages and lay the foundation of the great commonwealth which sprang up from the colonies planted by Boone, Harrod, Shelby and their compatriots. Drury Holt was a type of his kind, a powerful, muscular man, bold, active and energetic, fond of sports and a social favorite, the kind of a man to gather around him a strong following of ardent and sym-

pathetic admirers and to be a conspicuous character at all neighborhood gatherings. He was not a politician nor a seeker after military glory, but an unambitious, and, excepting his claims as a wrestler, boxer and runner, an unassuming citizen. He was probably married when he settled in Kentucky, and there subsequently reared his family. His wife's maiden name was Rogers, and by her he had six children, all of whom became grown and raised families. The eldest and youngest of these, Danswell and Drury, were sons, the remainder being daughters. Mollie was married to John Ryan Henry, Patty to Joseph Ryan, Lucy to David Trammel and the youngest to Daniel Neal. Drury inherited a great deal of his father's physical and social make-up. In middle life he turned his attention to religion and politics and became a prominent minister of the Church of the Disciples and a man of some public note.

Danswell Holt was born in Kentucky, in 1794, and was reared in his native State. He married a Miss Alice Wright and had eight children: Susan, who was married to Joel Scott, and now resides in Carroll county, Arkansas; Patty, who was married to Richard Clark, and resides in Kentucky; Betty, who was married to Abram Speers, and resides in Carroll county, Arkansas; Henry, who lives in Carroll county, Arkansas; Isham, who lives at Silver City, New Mexico; Larkin, who lives in Carroll county, Arkansas; Calvin Rogers, the subject of this sketch; and Lucinda, the wife of John Rutledge, of Carroll county, Arkansas. The father died in Cumberland county, Kentucky, in 1844. The mother died in Carroll county, Arkansas, about 1877 or '78. The father was a quiet, moral man, but not connected with any religious denomination. The mother was a lifelong member of the Baptist Church.



Calvin Rogers Holt, with whom this article is mainly concerned, was born near Cumberland river in Cumberland county, Kentucky, February 13, 1824. He was reared in his native county. His boyhood and early youth were passed on his father's farm. At the age of twenty-four he married, settled himself and began caring for a separate household. Four years later, in 1852, he came to Texas and located in Burleson county, residing for two years on Davidson creek, a short distance southeast of Caldwell. He then purchased land on Yellow prairie, where he settled and has since resided. Forty years ago, when Mr. Holt took up his residence where he now lives, the north and western part of Burleson county was very sparsely settled, practically unimproved, and still subject to occasional visits from straggling bands of Indians. His nearest neighbors then were: Alexander Thompson, William Wilkerson, Isaiah Courtney and George R. Lewis. None of these knew much about frontier life except Mr. Lewis. He had spent a number of years on the border and was the "main-stay" of the settlement on matters of common interest. All of these except Mr. Holt are now dead.

There being no railroads in the State at that date a great deal of freighting was going on from Houston to interior points, and Mr. Holt early sought employment in this business. He was profitably engaged in this for a number of years, making several trips to southwestern Texas, and two, during the war, to the Rio Grande country, where he purchased salt and coffee, which he brought back and distributed among the settlers. After the war he took advantage of the prosperous times, and, in stock and farming, made considerable money, most of which he invested in land and cattle, and thus laid the foundation

of that success which has since fallen to his lot. Mr. Holt now owns about 1,500 acres of land, two-thirds of which lies in Burleson county, the remainder in Milam county, about 200 acres of which are in cultivation. His place on Yellow prairie, near the railway station of that name, is well improved and well-stocked. Mr. Holt has inherited from his Kentucky ancestors the love of fine stock, which has made that State famous the world over. It is conceded that he raises the finest mules in Burleson county. He is devoted to farming, stock-raising and kindred pursuits, in which he has met with good success. Public matters receive a fair share of his attention, but he has never held any public office and has never cared to. In the social, moral, educational and religious welfare of the community in which he resides, he has always shown a marked interest, and has contributed liberally of his means, his time and his personal effort toward building these up. He has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for years, this faith coming to him naturally from pious parents. He is no master in religious debate nor seeker after vain things in scriptural analysis, believing rather in the broad and benevolent teachings of Christianity and the universal brotherhood of man.

In politics he is independent, having voted the Democratic ticket most of his life, but is not wedded to the party.

Mr. Holt has been twice married, his first marriage occurring in Cumberland county, Kentucky, in February, 1843, when he wedded Miss Oney Bow, a daughter of John Bow. This lady was born in Cumberland county, Kentucky, and died in Burleson county, Texas, in 1871. She left seven children: Alice, who was first married to Green Stilwell, and after his death to Henry C. Dil-







*John H. Williams*



lard; Millie, who was married to John Robinson; Florence, the widow of Robert Kenton; Jeff; Calvin R., Charles and Betty, the wife of Walter Dickinson. In 1877 Mr. Holt married Miss Grundy Teel, daughter of Oph and Betty Beall. The children of the last union are: Mary, Lillie, Dallie, William, Rogers, Mattie, Annie, May and Carney.

**J**OHAN H. WILLIAMS, a farmer and stock raiser of Williamson county, Texas, is a son of G. W. and Susanah (Berry) Williams, of Scotch-Irish descent. The paternal grandfather, Jesse Williams, who was probably a native of Ireland, after coming to this country, resided in one of the Carolinas, took part in the Revolutionary war, and afterward went to Indiana, where he subsequently died. G. W. Williams was born and raised in Indiana, where he was married in the late '20s. He lived in Orange county, that State, until 1840, in that year moved to Benton county, Missouri, and in 1848 to Titus county, locating on the southern fork of the Red river, in the eastern part of the State. Eight years later he settled in the neighborhood where our subject now lives. The father died here, February 13, 1881, the mother having departed this life in eastern Texas, in 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Williams had five children: Sarah, widow of Mr. Adams, of Burnet county, Texas; Nancy, deceased, John H., the subject of this sketch, Susan, living in Burnet county; and Willie, deceased. Mrs. Williams was married previous to this union, and had six children. After her death Mr. Williams married a widow with three children, and they became parents of five children, making four sets of children in the family. M. Williams was a member of the Methodist Church, and a life-long Democrat.

John H. Williams was born in Orange county, Indiana, December 29, 1833, and accompanied the family in their various moves. In 1857 he located in Williams county, on his present farm, consisting of 945 acres, where he is also engaged in stock-raising. In 1878, he erected his beautiful and commodious residence. In 1862 Mr. Williams enlisted in Company A, Thirtieth Texas Cavalry, and served for three years in the Trans-Mississippi Department, engaged principally in scouting duty. He has always taken an active interest in politics, and in 1880 was elected Commissioner of his district, serving one term of two years. In 1884 he was again elected to that position, and served two terms. During his administration the jail question was agitated, and resulted in the erection of the present safe and commodious building, Mr. Williams having been a prominent worker in its favor.

February 14, 1855, in Titus county, Texas, our subject was united in marriage to Sarah E. McCrovey, who was born in Pettis county, Missouri, but raised in Titus county, Texas. Her grandfathers on both sides were natives of Ireland. Grandfather James McCrovey located in South Carolina, where he raised his family. Samuel McCrovey, the father of Mrs. Williams, located in Missouri when a young man, was there married to Jane C. Brown, and when Mrs. Williams was six months old they came to Texas, locating in Red River county. The parents both died in Titus county. Our subject and wife have had six children, as follows: Susan E., at home; J. H., who has served for the past four years as secretary and steward of the Deaf and Dumb Institute of Austin; Samuel A., a grocer of this county; Mary M., deceased; Mary E., deceased; and Lillie A., at home. In his political relations, Mr. Williams is a



Democrat of the old school, but votes for the man and principle. Socially he is a Royal Arch Mason, holding his membership in Mt. Horeb Lodge, No. 137. He has filled all the important offices in the blue lodge, and some of the offices in the chapter. Religiously, he is a Deacon in the Missionary Baptist Church.



**H**ENRY SMILIE, an old Texan and a prosperous farmer residing on the edge of the Brazos bottom in the vicinity of Baileyville, Milam county, is a native of Montgomery county, Alabama, where he was born August, 1834. His parents were Henry and Matilda Smilie, the father being a South Carolinian by birth, the place of the mother's nativity not being known. Both, however, descended from old American stock, and their parents were early settlers of Alabama. Henry Smilie and Matilda May were married in Alabama and there spent their lives, the wife dying in Montgomery county about 1838 or 1839, and the husband in Pike county in 1844, both in middle life. The elder Smilie was a planter, the possessor of considerable means, a man of plain ways and uneventful life. He never held any public positions, and with the exception of some service against the Indians when a young man never figured in public affairs. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the fourth in age. The others are: Eugenia, who is now the wife of Charles Burley, and resides in Laredo, Texas; Robert, who died in Alabama where his descendants now reside; James, who was killed at the battle of Gaines' Mill during the late war; Sarah Jane, the present wife of J. R. Jones, of Milam

county; Jacob, a farmer of this county; William, who was also killed at Gaines' Mill during the late war; and Malinda, who died in infancy.

Henry Smilie was reared in Montgomery county, Alabama, until he was fourteen years old. His father then moving to Pike county, his youth was passed in that county until he was eighteen. At that age, in 1852, he came to Texas, in company with an older sister and two brothers, being a part of a caravan which was made up from Pike and Montgomery counties and bound for the West. Locating in Washington county, he remained there one year, when he went to Robertson county. There he resided until 1861, when he became a citizen of Milam county, settling on what is now known as the Muldrow place, near Caddo Church, which he improved. He has lived in this general vicinity since, having bought, improved, and sold several times.

He settled on his present farm in 1866. This farm, consisting of 400 acres lying within the forks of Pond creek and along the Brazos river, nearly all of which is in cultivation, is one of the finest bodies of land in Milam county, being well improved and highly productive. He has devoted most of his life to farming, at which he has met with reasonable success. In 1870 he put a ferry on the Brazos river, which he conducted for about seven years, discontinuing it about 1877.

Mr. Smilie enlisted in the Confederate army during the late war, entering Bennett's company and Elmore's regiment, with which he was assigned to duty in the Transportation Department, and served till the close of hostilities.

He married, in Milam county, in November, 1858, Miss M. O. W. Henson, a native of Rush county, this State, and by this marriage has had five children, four of whom





became grown: Joseph H., who died at the age of nineteen; William J., Minnie and Perla.

Mr. Smilie cast his first vote for president for Millard Fillmore, the candidate of the American party, in 1856. On the disintegration of the old parties in 1860 he cast his political fortunes with the Democrats, and he has steadily voted with them since. He refused to support Horace Greeley, however, in 1872, because he did not believe Greeley represented the Democratic party.

Mr. Smilie is a Mason, a member of the Knights of Honor, and he and most of his family belong to the Baptist Church.



JAMES L. DEAN, merchant and farmer of Deanville, Burleson county, is a son of Lemuel and Judith Dean, who were comparatively early settlers of Texas, moving here in 1851. Lemuel Dean was a native of Virginia, where he was born in 1793. He was married in his native State, and about 1838 moved to Nashville, Tennessee, and at a later date took up his residence at Quincy, that State, where he resided until 1851, when he came to Texas and located in Washington county. He later moved to Bosque county, where he died in 1862. He was engaged most of his life at his trade as a carpenter, and met with a fair share of success. His wife, mother of the subject of this sketch, was also a native of Virginia, where she was born about the beginning of this century. Her maiden name was Judith Bowers. Their children were: Thomas; Martha, who was married to William Enqua; Sarah, who was married to Charles Isbell; Lemuel; Richard; Tennessee, who was married to William Meeks; John; James L.; Adeline, who was

married to Charles Smith; William, and George. The only member of this large family now living is James L., whose name heads this notice. He was born in Quincy, Gibson county, Tennessee, on the 9th day of October, 1841. He was reared on a farm, where he enjoyed but meager educational advantages. He entered the Confederate army in 1861, enlisting in Company F, Twenty-first Texas Cavalry. Being engaged on out-post duty for several months after his enlistment, he saw but little actual field service, but later his command was ordered toward the East, and was in part of the series of engagements following Banks' Red river campaign. After this expedition the command returned to interior Texas and was disbanded at Moseley's Ferry, in Brazos county, at the close of the war. Mr. Dean then settled in Burleson county. Feeling his need of better educational qualifications, he entered a school, where he took a ten months' course, after which he began clerking for R. W. Dean in the mercantile business at Caldwell. He was so employed till February, 1872. By this time he had saved some means from his wages, and, having married, he moved to his present location, eight miles west of Caldwell, where he began operations on his own account. In 1878 a postoffice was established on his place and received his name. In 1883 he received the appointment as Postmaster, and has since held that position. His interests are mercantile, farming and stock-raising, at which he has succeeded reasonably well.

Mr. Dean's marriage occurred April 21, 1869, when he was united to Miss Josephine Dunn, then a resident of Burleson county, and a daughter of J. G. Dunn, who moved from Mississippi to Texas about 1858. Mrs. Dean was born in Mississippi and reared



there and in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Dean have had nine children: Genevieve, now deceased; Olivia May, the wife of Dr. C. M. Thurston, of Louisville, Kentucky; Edna, deceased; Ira; Alwin, deceased; Annie, deceased; Myrtle Jennett; Emma; Mary; and Benjamin Normand.

In politics Mr. Dean affiliates with the Democratic party, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



**W** J. BREWER, a prosperous and popular farmer of Milam county, was born January 25, 1858. His paternal grandfather, Jackson Brewer, was born in Lebanon, Tennessee, in 1828. C. C. Brewer, the father of our subject, was a native of Tennessee. He followed farming and merchandising before the war, served as Clerk of Coffee county, Tennessee, two years, was commissioned Captain of a company of infantry for service in the Confederate army, and was killed at the battle of Tullahoma, Tennessee. He married Eunice, a daughter of Jesse Reynolds, by whom he had seven children, namely: Frank, deceased; Fannie, wife of J. E. Davis, of Reagan Texas; Bettie, deceased; W. J., our subject; Mercer, a resident of Kosse, Texas; John, of Cameron, this county; Dr. Morris, a graduate of a Baltimore institution of medicine, and practicing physician of Milam county.

W. J. Brewer came to Milam, Texas, at the age of seventeen, where he attended a country school twelve months. He first engaged in farming with his brother-in-law, J. E. Davis, working on the shares. The following two years he rented land of W. H. Askew, in this county, and during the next two years was a tenant on a farm of Judge D. M.

Prendergast, on the Brazos river. In 1881 Mr. Brewer purchased 100 acres of his present farm, lying in the northern part of Milam county, to which he afterward added 200 acres more. The entire farm is fenced, and 130 acres under a fine state of cultivation. During the first year Mr. Brewer came to his present location he invested in cattle, buying about seventy-five head, but after three years disposed of his stock, since which time he has confined himself to feeding beef cattle, marketing about two car-loads per year. Politically, he is a Democrat, and was appointed Postmaster of Clarkson by Wanamaker, upon the recommendation of W. F. Crawford, of Cameron.

Mr. Brewer was married in 1886 to Ella, a daughter of Henry and Emily (Dannelley) Barker. Mrs. Brewer is one of nine children, the others being: Emma, wife of J. A. Rogers, in Mills county; Byron, Judge, Della, Gains, Walter, Nettie and Johnnie. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer have one child, Ennice. Mr. Brewer is a member of the Masonic order, holding a membership in Little River Lodge, No. 397.



**A**LEXANDER ANDERSON.—Among the most thrifty and independent people who have sought homes in this country are the Swedes. They come from a densely populated region, where life is sustained only by continuous employment among the laboring classes, and when turned loose on the broad, naked surface of our rich western country the same efforts and economy put forth soon produce prosperity and in time great wealth. A most worthy representative of this hardy race is Alexander Anderson, of Taylor, Texas.



He was born in Sweden, December 8, 1846. His father, H. Anderson, was born in 1820 and died in 1889. He was a farmer, had a fair education, and enjoyed ordinary thrift for a man of his vocation. He married Matilda Nelson, and they became the parents of three children, two sons and a daughter. The other son, Gustave, is a farmer in Sweden. The daughter is the wife of H. Anderson, they also being residents of Sweden.

Alexander Anderson remained with his father, engaged in farming, until 1869, when he came to the United States, embarking for New York, April 2, and landing at his destination on the 26th of the same month. For some time he was engaged in work at the carpenter's trade. Two years after his arrival in the United States he found himself in Sherman, Texas, where he was employed on the Transcontinental Railroad one year. He then went to Columbus, Colorado county, this State, and found employment on the Sunset route, remaining with that company a year. Deciding to quit the railroad and engage in a more independent business, he accordingly located in Travis county and began farming. He rented land the first few years and found that farming, even on rented land, was more profitable than railroad work, so he concluded to buy a farm. Learning of the fine country surrounding Taylor, he came hither in 1877 and bought 140 acres, and to his first purchase he has since added 410 more, all now under fence and 300 acres under cultivation. Corn, cotton and millet are his chief crops, his cotton crop in 1892 amounting to 120 bales.

Mr. Anderson was married in Travis county, Texas, in 1878, January 5, to Annie Kreger, who was born in that county in 1858. Her father, a native of Germany, emigrated to this country in 1852. Mr. and Mrs. An-

derson have had three children, namely: Gustave, who died November 27, 1892, at the age of thirteen years; Ludveg, eleven years old; and Augusta, nine. The family are Lutherans.



**J** W. WALKER, a prosperous and progressive young farmer of Williamson county, is a native of the State of Georgia, born in Crawford county, December 19, 1850. His father, S. C. Walker, Sr., was born in North Carolina, November 7, 1827, and at the age of nine years accompanied his mother to Georgia, the father having passed to his eternal home; he learned the trade of blacksmith and wheelwright, and carried on these occupations in connection with farming. In 1861 he removed to Washington county, Florida, and resided there until 1870, when he came to Texas with his family; he first located in Bastrop county, and a few years later came to Williamson county, of which he is an honored citizen. The paternal grandfather of J. W. Walker was a native of North Carolina and a man of wide influence; he was a politician of more than local note, and had the confidence of his party, often being called to fill responsible official positions. He reared a family of five children: Ned, Nat, S. G., Lazarus, and Margaret, who married John Crooms. Ned, Nat, and Lazarus died in the Confederate army, the last named passing away while a prisoner of war at Rock Island, Illinois. S. G. Walker, Sr., married Hester Crooms, a daughter of John Crooms by his first marriage, and they became the parents of a family of five children: J. W., the subject of this biography; George; Elizabeth, wife of J. B. Gamor; J. M.; and S. G., Jr.





At the time of his marriage Mr. Walker engaged in farming in Bastrop county, and also operated a cotton gin; upon his removal to Williamson county he brought the gin plant which is located on his present farm. His chief object in coming to Williamson county was to secure a farm of rich, black land which is steadily rising in value. He purchased 160 acres, 118 acres of which he has placed under good cultivation.

The date of his marriage is September 16, 1884, when he was wedded to Laura Ramsey, a daughter of W. D. and Nancy (Seymour) Ramsey, and one of four children: Mary married George W. Walker; Sarah is the wife of John Wolf; W. D.; and Mrs. J. W. Walker, who was born January 18, 1860, and is the mother of two children: Lillie, born February 7, 1886, is an exceptionally bright little girl; and Hiram W. was born February 24, 1891.



**G**EORGE A. LEWIS, a farmer and stock-raiser, Lyons, Texas, was born in Burleson county, this State, December 14, 1855, the fifth child of George R. and Irene (Ryan) Lewis. His parents came from Alabama to Texas in 1852, and settled in this county, where his father was engaged in farming and dealing in stock the rest of his life. He first bought and improved a farm on Yellow prairie, which he subsequently sold, and bought and developed another farm on Mound prairie. He died in 1860. He was a staunch Democrat, a prominent Mason, a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and a man whose many estimable qualities won for him the respect and esteem of all with whom he came in contact.

George A. Lewis remained with his widowed mother until 1881, when he married and settled on a farm of his own, having bought 200 acres where he now lives. To his original purchase he has since added until he is now the owner of 500 acres. He has about seventy-five acres under cultivation, renting part of it and hiring help to cultivate the rest, corn and cotton being his principal crop. It is to stock, however, that he gives his chief attention, raising sheep, goats, jacks, hogs, cattle and horses. He has a horse ranch in Nolan county. His residence is one of the attractive places of the neighborhood.

Of Mr. Lewis's brothers and sisters we make record as follows: Sarah A. was twice married, and died leaving an only child; John R., of Nolan county; Christina wife of Paul R. Valentine, is deceased; Jennie, who died at the age of twenty-two unmarried; Maggie wife of James Lewis; Lou, who married Silas Valentine; Alice, wife of Taylor Keen, of Alabama; and Willie, wife of James W. Winn, of Tom Green county, Texas.

Mr. Lewis was married in 1881, to Miss Annie G. Krohne, who was born in Washington county, Texas, July 26, 1855. Her father, George H. Krohne, a native of Germany, came to America and settled in Texas at an early day, bring his wife with him. He lost his wife the second year after settling in Texas, and later married Martha Petzink. Mrs. Lewis is the fourth child of the last marriage. Mr. Krohne first lived in Washington county, then moved to Williamson, and in 1865 located in Burleson county, where he still lives. He is a farmer and carpenter, and has also been engaged in running a cotton gin and mill. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have had eight children, viz.: George R., Hallie, Martha L., Earl R., John R., Clint D.,



Allie G. and Willie S. All are living except George R., who died at the age of three years, and Martha I., whose death occurred at the age of seven years and three months.

Mr. Lewis casts his vote with the Democratic party.



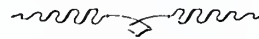
**JAMES S. HEFLEY.**—Much as moralists may deery the habit of money-getting, that habit when formed under the guidance of an intelligent mind and directed by an honest purpose, represents the essence of some of the best virtues attributable to man. Money is a good thing and the man who is capable of making it, who does make it and uses it wisely, is a valuable citizen in any community. The subject of this sketch is a money-maker. His right to be so designated is unquestioned. An heir by birth to some of those qualities which develop into the granite of strong men's natures, he has been jostled by events, and the jostling has wrought a surprising improvement.

Mr. Hefley is a son of William V. Hefley, an old citizen of Milam county, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. The subject of this notice was born in Henderson county, Tennessee, January 28, 1854. The same year his parents moved to Texas and settled in this county. His boyhood and youth were spent on the farm three miles from Cameron. There, in the typical old log school-house, with batten doors, puncheon floor and slab seats, he received all the education he ever obtained. In 1879, with a capital of \$150, he started out for himself, opening a livery stable in Rockdale, Milam county. A year later he moved to Cameron, continuing in the same line. For thirteen

years he has given his attention unremittingly to this business. His \$150 investment, supplemented by a full measure of pluck, energy and persevering industry, has grown amazingly. He has a business now which represents at least \$9,000, \$5,000 in realty and \$4,000 in live stock, vehicles and equipments. In addition to this he owns ten residences and two business houses in Cameron, and a farm of 212 acres, worth \$3,500, six miles west of town. He has made all this in the last fourteen years.

In April, 1891, he was elected Alderman of Cameron for a term of two years, one year of which he served as Mayor *pro tem.*, was re-elected Alderman in April, 1893, and unanimously chosen Mayor *pro tem.* for one year. He has interested himself as one of his energy and nature might be expected to, both in the affairs of the town and county. A Democrat of the progressive type, he advocates those men and measures that promise the most lasting good to his locality and the public at large without reference to political brands or names. He is a member also of the Knights of Honor and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Hefley married, in Milam county, March 25, 1882, Miss Fannie A., daughter of Samuel M. Hefley, and is the father of five children.



**S WOHLLEB.**—Thirty-three years ago a German lad of seventeen sat under a tree in Baden and took a last tearful look at his native village. His life there had not been a happy one, for he had been left an orphan at thirteen, and had had many struggles. But one does not part from the home of his childhood, however unhappy his lot there may have been, without some feel-



ings of regret. And so he paused at the outskirts of the village, from which after a last look he turned away, and, buttoning his rough jacket over a brave heart, started out to win his way in the world. The lad was Serephin Wohlleb, born in Baden, June 20, 1841. A month later we find him in America, a resident of Riley, Ohio, where he had secured employment at common labor, and had made an humble but auspicious beginning. This was in 1859.

Two years' residence in this country taught him much of American life and put new impulses in his breast, and so, when the late Civil war burst upon the country, with the generous impulsiveness of youth he offered his services for the preservation of the Union. They were accepted, and November, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Twenty-eighth Kentucky Infantry. His regiment was assigned to duty under Sherman, and remained in Kentucky until the fall of 1863, when it was started southward to join the Federal forces then being concentrated about Chattanooga. Entering the Georgia campaign in the spring of 1864, it was in all the engagements down to Atlanta, where, on the re-arrangement of the Union forces, it was placed with Thomas and was with him in his pursuit of Hood into Tennessee, taking part in the battles of Franklin and Nashville, where the final blow was given the ill-planned Confederate campaign.

The Twenty-eighth Kentucky remained about Nashville until after the general surrender, when it was sent, in July, 1865, as part of an army of occupation to Texas, and was stationed at Victoria. It remained there till January, 1866, when it was disbanded. Young Wohlleb was with it in all these movements, and shared its fortunes in battle, on the march and in camp, performing the duties of a soldier faithfully wherever placed.

After his discharge he went to work on a farm in Austin county, where he remained about a year. He then returned to Louisville, Kentucky, and November 28, 1867, married one of his country-women of that place, Miss Augusta Jeckel, daughter of Joseph Jeckel, and a native of Lenigan, Oldenburg, Germany. With his bride he came back to Texas, and, purchasing a small farm in Austin county, settled down to agricultural pursuits. He resided in that county until 1883, when he moved to Milam county, where for five years he engaged in farming and ginning. In 1888 he came to Cameron and here started his present business—conducting an ice factory and bottling works. This business was necessarily begun on a small scale, but it has grown materially, and is really one of the important local industries of Cameron. It represents an investment of about \$10,000, and from March to December does a thriving trade, two and a half tons of ice being manufactured daily, and a proportionate quantity of bottled goods sold. All of this is consumed in the town of Cameron, and the demand is steadily growing. Mr. Wohlleb has added a cotton gin to his plant, which is kept busy from September to December, the output from which the last season was about 1,700 bales, and an equal number the season before. Mr. Wohlleb was among the first to see the possibilities of cotton-seed oil manufacture at Cameron, and was identified in its earlier stages with the movement which resulted in the erection of the present mill at this place.

He is an advocate of immigration, and believes that the future prosperity of the county depends upon the coming of a thrifty class of small farmers, for whom the large tracts now lying idle should be cut up and disposed of in suitable quantities. Hardly any man watches with closer interest the progress of







*St. John Primmer*



public affairs, or better understands the condition of things around him. He has come thoroughly into sympathy with the people among whom he lives, and is identified with all their interests.

He has six children: Alfred, Josephine, Augusta, George, Harry and Clements. He is a member of the Knights of Honor, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Mutual Benefit Association of Brenham. Mr. Wohlleb has a half-brother, Jacob Jaist, living in Austin county, and another, George, living in Bell county. One brother, Bernhard, and a sister, Sofia, reside in the old country. His parents died in Baden, Germany, in 1854, aged fifty-four each. The entire family are members of the Catholic Church.



**D**R. WILLIAM PRIMM, deceased, was descended from one of the old, aristocratic and wealthy families of Virginia. Several members of the family became professional and noted men. A son of Peter Primm, brother of our subject, chose law for his profession, and moved to Ohio when that was a new State, there attaining a position of eminence as a jurist. He served several terms as a member on the United States Congress, and later was an incumbent on the bench of the Supreme Court of Ohio.

The subject of this sketch, Dr. William Primm, moved to the then Territory of Missouri, where he remained until 1830, and in that year located in Mississippi. He next removed to Louisiana, and in 1835 made a prospecting tour into Texas, where he purchased, of William Barton, the headright of a league of land. The land is located in the Colorado river valley, and is now among the

best plantations in the State. After the Texas Revolution Dr. Primm returned to Louisiana for his slaves and personal effects, and after coming again to this State obtained a headright from the Republic of Texas for one-third of a league of land. He soon had his large farm opened. When he first located in this place his supplies were all brought from Houston. Our subject remained on his farm the remainder of his days, dying in 1865. He did not desire to practice his profession here, but as good physicians were then scarce the people for miles around called on him for his services, and he always attended. He would never take pay for such services, and his kindness was appreciated by his many friends, and he will be remembered with gratitude for generations. The Doctor's eldest son, James, the only survivor of the family, was born in Missouri, in 1820, and remained with his father until the latter located in Texas. He then traveled in different States and in Mexico, and finally engaged in business in the latter country, where he remained until the close of the late war. Since his father's death he has been the executor and manager of the large estate, and resides at the old homestead. The second son, Galen, died in 1852. The third and youngest son, St. John, by will inherited his father's entire estate. He was born in Louisiana, in 1834, and received a fine education in Ohio. He made many improvements on the old estate, opened a large tract of land, and had he lived would have been very wealthy. In 1867 he married Mrs. Frances M. Inge, a daughter of Owen and Elizabeth Faust, natives respectively of South Carolina and Georgia. After her father's death, Mrs. Primm came with her widowed mother, in 1855, to Texas, where she afterward married Mr. Inge. They had four children, two now living: Newton



H. and Franklin, both engaged in farming in this county. Mr. Inge died in the army, and his widow afterward moved with her children to this locality. In 1867 she married St. John Primm, and they had five children: Julian B., Varney H., Albert M., Theodosia H. and Estell,—all at home. During his life, Mr. Primm contributed liberally to the education of his children, and his wife is now carrying out his desires. The two eldest sons are graduates of the college at Delaware, Ohio, and are now engaged in merchandising at Smithville. The third son also attended the same college. The daughters have attended school at San Antonio and Austin, and a governess is also employed at home. Mr. Primm died in 1880.

In 1881 Mrs. Primm married James Primm, the eldest brother of her former husband. They now reside at the old homestead, where they have about 2,200 acres of land under cultivation. Eighty tenants are employed on the place, and they make from 600 to 900 bales of cotton annually. The family residence, a two-story frame building, is situated on an elevated plat, overlooking the entire plantation. Mr. and Mrs. Primm have one son, William A.



**P**ROF. L. R. WALDEN, President of the Walden's Texas Business Colleges in Austin and Fort Worth, was born in Clark county, Kentucky, April 13, 1861, a son of William J. and Mary Jane (Heisle) Walden, who were born, reared and married in Kentucky. The father, a farmer and mechanic by occupation, came to Texas with his wife in order that they might spend their lives with their children, all of whom are in this State. The wife and mother died

February 20, 1892, aged fifty-seven years. The father is now fifty-seven years of age. Both were members of the Christian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Walden were the parents of four children: Adelia, wife of James F. Ragland, of Austin; L. R., our subject; C. E., local principal of the Fort Worth school; and Robert E. Lee, a teacher in the same school.

L. R. Walden was educated in the primary and district schools of Clark county, Kentucky; in the Winchester high school; in the Ogle and Mitchell Colleges, of Lexington, and in the Spencerian Business College at Cleveland, Ohio. After completing his education he began teaching in Johnston's Commercial College and the English Academy, but later severed his connection with the latter school and traveled through Kentucky, doing itinerant work in the commercial branches, bookkeeping, penmanship, short methods in arithmetic, etc. Mr. Walden was next identified with the Lake Side Business College, of Chicago, and in 1886 accepted the principalship of the commercial department of the Capitol Business College, in Austin, under the Presidency of Professor J. J. Anderson. One and a half years later he opened the Texas Business College, which now enrolls about 300 pupils per annum. In August, 1895, a branch school was established at Fort Worth, under the name of Walden's Texas Business College, and the Austin school was changed to the same name. They enroll about fifty pupils, and the curriculum includes a thorough business course in bookkeeping, penmanship, business arithmetic, practical English grammar, mental arithmetic, commercial spelling, correspondence, business forms, commercial law and business ethics. Professor Walden designs the term "business course," in the Walden's Texas





Business College, to mean a training in all the English and a few special branches, necessary to give a well rounded, thorough, symmetrical English education, developing the powers to apply the knowledge.

Professor Walden was married in October, 1887, to Miss Alice L. Phillips. Mrs. Walden is a native of Texas, her parents having come to this State at an early date. She was educated in the public schools of Austin, in the high school, and in St. Mary's Academy. She is a teacher of ability, and has charge of the short-hand department of the institution. Mr. and Mrs. Walden are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in which the former has been a teacher in the Sunday-school. He is a member of the Masonic order,—blue lodge, chapter and commandery, and is J. D. in the blue lodge.



**W**ILLIAM JUVENAL is one of the prominent pioneers of Williamson county, and is entitled to more than passing mention in this connection. He was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, September 22, 1834. When a youth of fourteen years his family with some relatives, and other families from their neighborhood, set out on the long journey to Texas. Enoch Oxley, an uncle of Mr. Juvenal, had visited Williamson county a few years before this time, and had been very favorably impressed with the Bushy creek country; here he bought a considerable tract of land on which Mr. Juvenal was entitled to settle.

This long and weary trip was fraught with accidents and filled with privations. Near Rock Island, Illinois, the Sny bridge fell, precipitating three teams into the stream; there were many tedious waits for

swollen streams to fall, and finally sickness and death invaded the little company. The mother of our subject succumbed to the hardships, and her remains were buried at Ashley, Missouri. They finally reached their destination; the country was new, thinly settled and wild game abounded from the jack rabbit to the buffalo. In the spring of 1849 Mr. Juvenal constructed a breaking plow, and using his ox teams with this implement prepared much of the land on Bushy creek for cultivation. He next engaged in freighting goods from Houston and distributed them throughout the upper country; this proved a very profitable occupation in which he continued for sixteen years. The approach of the "iron horse," however, destroyed this industry, and Mr. Juvenal was forced to retire. Turning his attention to agriculture he began to improve a farm, and with the exception of the years 1869 and 1870 spent exclusively in the cattle business he has devoted himself to agriculture. He purchased his present farm in 1865, paying for the first 320 acres at the rate of \$5 per acre, and for the remaining 118 acres at the rate of \$15; 300 acres are cultivated by tenants.

James Juvenal, father of William Juvenal, was born in Ohio, October 15, 1806; he emigrated to Illinois in early days, and participated in the Black Hawk war. Although his opportunities for obtaining an education had been poor he surmounted all obstacles in his career as a business man and gained success in the end. He was a Whig in his younger days, but later became a Democrat. His father, a native of England, emigrated to the United States, and located in Pennsylvania; thence he removed to Ohio, and later to Illinois, where he died at the advanced age of eighty-four years. He married Polly



Caughron, and they had a family of seven children: David, Andrew, James, Josiah, John, Eliza and G. M. James Juvenal married Dorcas Smalley, a daughter of Benjamin and Polly (Liggett) Smalley, who were the parents of six children: Betsey, wife of Enoch Oxley; Polly, who married Benjamin Purcell; Dorcas; Prudy, wife of William Robb; Cynthia, wife of Mike Risinger and William. Mr. and Mrs. Juvenal had born to them a family of seven children: Mary Elizabeth, deceased; William; J. C., deceased; Josiah; Benjamin; John, a resident of Oregon; and Cynthia Ann, who married Bartlet Asher.

William Juvenal was united in marriage, April 27, 1857, to Margaret, a daughter of G. and Elizabeth (Vineyard) Harris; they are the parents of Mrs. Juvenal, Mary, Mrs. H. M. McNntt, and John A., a merchant of Hutto, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Juvenal have had nine children: Mary Catharine, the wife of T. W. Bowles; Annie, married to J. T. Goosby; Elizabeth, the wife of J. T. Moore; Emily, married to E. F. Harkins; J. W., deceased, who married Miss Nellie McCormick, and left two children; Tobit M., Anstin, Etta and John are the other members of the family. Both Mr. and Mrs. Juvenal are worthy and consistent members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and have a high standing in the community.



**D**R. A. C. WALKER, for nineteen years a practicing physician of Rockdale, Milam county, being in point of residence the oldest practitioner of this place, was born in the town of Nacogdoches, Texas, August 3, 1851, and is a son of Judge Richard S. Walker, deceased, at one time one of Texas' most eminent jurists and highly respected

citizens, a full biography of whom appears under an appropriate title in this work.

The subject of this notice was reared in his native place, and in the schools of that place received his early education. He finished his collegiate training with a course in the University of Virginia; read medicine and was graduated at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, of New York, in March, 1873. After a year's practice at Nacogdoches he located, in February, 1874, at Rockdale, where he entered vigorously on the pursuit of his profession, which he has followed actively and earnestly at this place since. Dr. Walker, although yet a young man, is the pioneer physician of Rockdale, and has attained a position as physician and surgeon not reached by many men of his age. His chosen profession has been the ambition of his life, and success has attended him at every step therein. He is not a specialist in any branch, but has demonstrated his ability in all the branches of medicine. He has been particularly successful in surgery, and is probably best known in connection with his work in this department. He is the local surgeon of the International & Great Northern and the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway Companies, and is frequently called to do fine surgical work in counties adjoining his own. He is a member of the Milam County Medical Society and of the Texas State Medical Association, and is a frequent contributor to the literature of the profession.

Dr. Walker is in the prime of life, in good health, vigorous in action, and has many years of usefulness before him. His temperament is of the vital-sanguine order; his nature is buoyant and joyful. Life is indeed to him a boon, for he appreciates all of its privileges and its pleasures. He is full of



jest and humor, and enjoys a good story as well as his breakfast. He is public-spirited and enterprising, and readily endorses any project calculated to stimulate the prosperity of his town and county. Generous and affable, his sympathies express themselves in kindness to his friends, and charities where they are merited. He believes that religion is a matter of conscience, and therefore not to be interfered with, as he believes that politics is a matter of principle in which men honestly differ. While not a partisan, he is a Democrat, holding liberal views with respect to party management, but strict in his adherence to the principles on which the party is founded. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having taken the blue lodge and Royal Arch degrees, and is Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 414, at Rockdale.

In June, 1879, Dr. Walker married Miss Gertrude Wright, of Rockdale, a daughter of Captain David Wright, who moved from Sardis, Mississippi, to Texas. Mrs. Walker was born and principally reared in Mississippi. To this union five children have been born.



**J** L. MORRIS, more familiarly known as Logue Morris, is one of the early settlers of Williamson county, having located in his present neighborhood in 1856. The Morris family were originally from North Carolina, and moved into Franklin county, Tennessee, in an early day. John Morris, the father of our subject, was born in North Carolina in 1802, and his death occurred in Franklin county, Tennessee, in 1848. He was married in that county in 1828, to Sarah Frame. In 1854 the mother and family came to Texas, spending the first

two years in Travis county, and then located near where our subject now resides, eighteen miles northwest of Georgetown, at the head of Berry's creek, in Williamson county. It was then a frontier place, wild game of all kinds was plentiful, and an occasional visit from hostile Indians disturbed the peace of the community. This locality is now one of the most prosperous and thickly settled parts of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Morris had nine children: Ellen, deceased; Adaline, now Mrs. Ferguson, of Goliad, Texas; J. L., our subject; John, of Hamilton county, this State; William, a resident of Taylor; Edward, of Williamson county; Fannie, deceased; Ann, now Mrs. Gardner, of Mills county, Texas; and Virginia, wife of John Moore, of Forence, this county. The mother lived with her children after they left home until her death, which occurred in August, 1887.

J. L. Morris was born in Franklin county, Tennessee, February 19, 1832. At the death of his father the care of the family was thrown on his young shoulders, although he was only sixteen years of age, and he assisted his mother in keeping the children at home until they were able to care for themselves. At the opening of the late war he enlisted in Company I, Twelfth Texas Cavalry, served in the Trans-Mississippi department until the surrender, and participated in the battles of Cotton Plant, Pleasant Hill, Yellow Bayou, etc. Mr. Morris now owns one of the finest prairie farms in Williamson county, consisting of 363 acres, 140 acres under a fine state of cultivation, and situated on the Lampasas and Georgetown road, eighteen miles from the latter place.

In 1868, in Williamson county, our subject was united in marriage to Susan Moore, a niece of L. Moore, a Texas pioneer. To this





union have been born seven children: Sarah, now Mrs. Edgar, of Gum Springs, Texas; J. R., William, James, Clara, Bernice and Susie, at home. Mr. Morris is a staunch Democrat, and a member of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**T**HOMAS WILLIAMS, a successful farmer of Williamson county, is a son of Thomas and Tabitha (Williams) Williams. The father was born, reared and married in Indiana, and afterward moved to Scott county, Arkansas. In 1854 the family located in the eastern part of Burnet county, Texas, on North Gabriel creek. Mr. and Mrs. Williams had four children: Roland and James, of Burnet county, Texas; Charlotte, deceased, was the wife of C. C. Steward, also of that county; and Thomas, our subject. The mother died in Arkansas in 1838, when Thomas was but an infant, and the father departed this life in Texas, August 23, 1890. He was a farmer by occupation, and a member of the Christian Church.

Thomas Williams was born in Scott, Arkansas, September 25, 1838, and when a boy came with his father to Texas. During the war he was a member of the State rangers, under Captain Bedick, and served on the Texas frontier. He now owns a fine farm of 500 acres, located on North Gabriel creek, twenty-two miles northwest of Georgetown, 160 acres being under cultivation. In his political relations, Mr. Williams affiliates with the Democratic party, and religiously is a member of the Christian Church.

October 25, 1858, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Smart, a native of Missouri, and a daughter of B. M. and Emma

(Cox) Smart. Mrs. Williams came with her parents to Texas in 1851, where the father died in 1879; the mother is still living. Our subject and wife have had twelve children, namely: Susan T., wife of Samuel Priest, of Williamson county; Milan, of Burnet county; William, of this county; Josephine, wife of W. C. Baker, of Burnet county; J. R., at home; J. M., a resident of Williamson county; Emma, wife of W. T. Thornton, of Burnet county; Charles M., at home; Charlotte, George W., II. P., and Albert B.



**D**R. J. C. REESE, dentist and druggist of Cameron, Milam county, is a native of Washita county, Arkansas, where he was born in 1855, and is a son of James Henry and Malinda M. Reese, natives of North Carolina and Georgia, respectively. His parents were mainly reared in Arkansas, unmarried in that State and resided there until their removal to Texas in 1870. They settled in Milam county in 1872, after having resided a year in Travis and a year in Bastrop county. Here the father died November 14, 1888, in the sixty-third year of his age, and the mother April 16, 1893, in the sixty-first year of her age. The Doctor is their eldest son, there being but two other children, Joel Samuel residing in Milam county; and LeRoy Zachary, residing in McLennan county.

Dr. Reese was reared mainly in this county and received his education in the country schools. He read dentistry here and attended lectures at the University of Nashville, Tennessee, at which he graduated (in dentistry) in 1881. March 20, that year, he married Miss Abbie Womack, daughter of Dr. J. C. Womack, of Cameron, and located in this



place, where he began the practice of his profession. In 1885 he engaged in the drug business, in connection with his father-in-law, and has since been engaged in it, being now the senior member of the firm of Reese & Sapp. On the organization of the First National Bank of Cameron in 1889 he took stock in that institution, and in January, 1892, became its vice-president, which position he still holds. He gives his attention exclusively to his profession and to his drug business, and for the size of the town in which he is located he enjoys a reasonably good patronage. Modest in his deportment, fair in his business methods, attentive to his own affairs, he is—and his fellow-townsmen so regard him—one of Cameron's most valuable citizens.



REV. W. S. LACKEY, a substantial farmer and most highly respected and popular citizen of Burleson county, was born in what was then Marion, now Sequatchie county, Tennessee, July 15, 1830. His parents were John P. and Elvira Lackey, the former of whom was a native of Kentucky, born in 1805, the latter a native of Tennessee, born in 1811. The parents of John P. Lackey were Hugh L. and Sarah J. Lackey, Hugh L. Lackey being a native of North Carolina, where he was born in 1772, and Sarah J. Porter, a native of Kentucky, where she was born in 1784. Hugh L. Lackey was a blacksmith by trade, a soldier in the war of 1812, an officer in the State militia, an early settler of east Tennessee, a leader in politics and a popular and prosperous citizen. John P. Lackey was reared in his native State; there learned the trade of a

hatter, married Elvira Stone of that State and in 1833 moved to Alabama, settling in what is now Calhoun county, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a soldier in the Seminole war of 1836, was a Colonel in the State militia in Alabama, held the office of Justice of the Peace and was a lifelong member of the Baptist Church. His wife was a daughter of General William Stone, a prominent citizen of Tennessee, Captain of a company of volunteers in the Creek war, an officer of distinction in the State militia and represented his district in Congress several sessions. The wife of William Stone bore the maiden name of Mary Randle and the children of their marriage were: Teresa, who became the wife of Thomas Pankey; Elvira (Mrs. Lackey); Rebecca, who was married to George W. Cain; Louisa, who was married to A. J. Wheeler; Amanda, who was married to J. M. Cain; McDonough Perry Decatur; Rhoda Jane, who was married to J. M. Havron; John L. and Spencer C. The children of Hugh L. and Sarah J. Lackey were: Elizabeth, who was married to William Hull; Isabella, who was married to Jacob Pearce; Robert William J.; Margaret, who was married to Leroy Bidwell; Jane, who was married to George McKaskill; James M.; Eliza, who was married to Elgin Hutchinson; Henry P. and John P.

John P. and Elvira Lackey's children were: William S., of this article; Sarah Jane, who was married to J. M. Teague; Christopher C.; Mary P., who was married to J. M. Powell; Amanda, who died young; Hugh L.; Margaret E., who was first married to James Burdett, and secondly to J. H. Ford; Eliza, who was married to Joel Arnold; Minado Polk, who was married to Burt Cobb; John L.; and Teresa, who was married to Peter Savage.



William S. Lackey was reared on a farm in Calhoun county, Alabama, where he was trained to all kinds of farming pursuits and where in the intervals of his labors he received the elements of a common English education. He learned the latter's trade from his father and followed it a number of years in early life.

January 22, 1856, Mr. Lackey married Miss Martha M. Ghent, a daughter of Daniel and Nancy Ghent, Mrs. Lackey being a native of Calhoun county, Alabama.

In 1862 Mr. Lackey entered the Confederate army, enlisting in the Fifty-first Alabama Regiment of Calvary, Wheeler's Division, with which he served until his capture June 27, 1863, at Shelbyville, Tennessee. From that date until the close of hostilities he was confined in Federal prisons, spending most of the time at Fort Delaware, on Delaware Island. He returned home after the surrender and resided in Alabama until 1869, when he came to Texas and settled at Port Sullivan, Milam county. A year later he moved to Burleson county, where he has since resided.

At the age of seventeen Mr. Lackey became converted and joined the Baptist Church. He was under impressions to preach for a number of years and in 1860 entered actively on ministerial work, which he has followed since. His labors have been interspersed with secular pursuits, principally farming, but his time has been given chiefly to gospel work. He has had a number of charges in Burleson county, which county has been the principal scene of his ministerial labors, having served the church at Providence for fifteen years, the church at Salem for twelve years and the church at Frainville for five years. During his ministry he has held a number of revivals, has

baptized over 400 converts, has solemnized the rites of matrimony for about 150 couples, and has probably officiated at a greater number of funerals than any other minister in Burleson county. On account of his devotion to his church, the simplicity of his character and the earnest interest he takes in his fellow beings, he is greatly admired by all classes of people and especially beloved by those with whom and for whom he has so long labored.

Mr. Lackey and wife have had born to them the following children: Ida, who died at the age of thirteen; Kittie, who was the wife of Rev. J. C. Combs, a minister of the Baptist Church; Elva; Daniel, who died at the age of fourteen; Nora; William Charles, Earnest, Henry and Emma, the last dying in infancy.

In 1853 Mr. Lackey joined the Masonic fraternity and has been an active member of the order since.



**JOHN NEWSOM.**—In the year 1855, in a period of general industrial activity, and at a time when Texas was receiving large accessions to its population from the older States, there arrived in the lower Brazos country a well-to-do planter from Georgia, named Joeday Newsom, who settled with his family and the slaves who accompanied him, in Washington county, then one of the wealthiest and best known sections of the State. Five years later he moved to Brazos county, and still later to the Brazos bottoms of Burleson county, where he purchased 1,000 acres of land on which he located, and which he began to reduce to cultivation. The opening of the late war stopped to a considerable extent his opera-







*Greene Lewis*



tions, not only because it demoralized his slaves and rendered inefficient their labor, but because he was called away to the service and kept from home most of the time until the closing months of the great struggle. He died just before the close of hostilities in 1865 from sickness, being at home at the time. His eldest son, Jesse, had died in the Confederate service, so that surviving the father were a widow and five children. The widow lived until July, 1891, when she too passed away. The eldest child of the family was a daughter, Sallie, who is now the wife of Tom Goodwin and resides at Bryan; the eldest son after the death of Jesse, was John, while the four younger members were Robert, a Burleson county farmer,—Mary, Olivia and Joeday.

John Newsom was born in Washington county, Georgia, August 11, 1849, and was in his sixth year when his parents moved to Texas. His boyhood was passed in Washington and Brazos counties and his youth in Burleson. He had the benefit of good educational advantages, attending school at Independence and at Waco. He took charge of affairs on the farm after growing up and addressed himself to the task of putting things to rights on the old homestead and to assisting in the proper training of his younger brothers and sisters. Having thus early been brought into contact with the practical affairs of life, he learned to rely upon himself and to put into use all the knowledge he had acquired at school, and all he had picked up at intervals around home on the farm. Mr. Newsom has been engaged continuously now for twenty-four years in farming, at which he has met with exceptionally good success, being accounted one of Burleson county's largest, thriftiest and most successful farmers. His place consisting of 500 acres, lying in

the famous Brazos bottoms, and nearly all of which is in cultivation, producing about 300 bales of cotton annually, and yielding sufficient grain to support stock and run it successfully without resorting to other resources. Mr. Newsom also owns and conducts during the ginning season a steam gin, which receives a liberal patronage and is a source of some revenue. Being somewhat isolated from the rest of the world and a man who believes strongly in the maxim of minding his own business, he has never actively engaged in public matters, having held no offices nor taken any part in political wrangles. He votes the Democratic ticket on all occasions, and believes in good government and the strict enforcement of the law and the observance of order, to the maintainance of all of which he lends his aid actively and by example. Mr. Newsom is unmarried.



MRS. IRENE LEWIS, widow of George R. Lewis, is one of the pioneer women of Texas. She was born in Blount county, Alabama, September 16, 1821, daughter of John and Molly (Holt) Ryan. Her father and mother were natives of Virginia and Tennessee, respectively, and were married in Kentucky. Her grandfather, William Ryan, a native of the Emerald Isle, came to America and located in Virginia, where he reared and educated his children. John Ryan, father of Mrs. Lewis, came to Texas in 1832, as a member of Captain Bean's company, and died at Fort Gibson the following year.

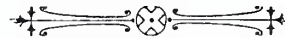
The subject of our sketch was mainly reared in Johnson county, Arkansas, where she was married, April 4, 1839, to George R. Lewis, with whom the joys and sorrows



of her life were blended until his death. Mr. Lewis was born in Tennessee, January 2, 1812, and was reared in his native State. He was a son of William Lewis, a native of Virginia and by occupation a blacksmith, which trade he followed in connection with farming. He owned many slaves and was a wealthy and prominent man. George R. Lewis was a natural mechanic. He could make almost anything out of wood or iron, and did his own work of that kind on the farm, as he was engaged in farming all his life. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis removed from Arkansas to Texas in 1852, arriving in Burleson county on the 1st of June. Their family at that time consisted of six children. They brought with them their slaves, some stock, etc., and here in this county Mr. Lewis developed two farms. He sold his first farm and some slaves and was swindled out of the proceeds. This loss so worked on his mind that it distracted him and led to his death by suicide in March, 1860. At the time of his death he had 350 acres of land, which he left to his widow and children. Under these sad circumstances Mrs. Lewis took upon herself the management of the farm and the rearing of her large family of children. These she raised, educated and kept together until one by one they married and left her, and as they settled in life she gave each one of them a start. All of her nine children grew to adult years. They are as follows: Sarah, who was twice married, and who died leaving an only child; John R., a resident of Nolan county; Christianna, wife of Paul R. Valentine, is deceased; Jennie, who died at the age of twenty-two unmarried; Maggie, wife of James Lewis; Lou, wife of Silas Valentine; George A., a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Burleson county; Alice, wife of Taylor Keene, a resident of Alabama; and

Willie, wife of James W. Winn, of Tom Green county, this State. Mrs. Lewis has fifty grandchildren. All of her family occupy honorable and useful positions in life. Her son-in-law, Mr. Lewis, now has charge of her farm, and he and his family reside with her at the old homestead.

The religious connection of the family is with the Baptist Church, Mrs. Lewis having belonged to this church since 1854, and having raised all of her children under its influence, and to it one of her sons and all of her daughters and sons-in-law belong.



**J** P. SMITH, a well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser of Burleson county, was born in Broome county, New York, October 2, 1824. His parents were Neomiah and Ruth Smith, who were natives of Massachusetts. He was the fourth-born in a family of six children, and the only one of that number who, so far as is known, ever became a resident of this State. Mr. Smith had a varied experience when a young man, leaving home at an early age, since which time he has lost sight of his people, and in consequence knows but little of them. His father being a woolen manufacturer the son was taught that trade, spending most of his youth in the factory and receiving but little education. At the age of twenty-one his father gave him \$5, and, telling him that he was now master of a good trade, suggested that he strike out and begin the serious duties of life for himself.

Young Smith's first trip was to Baltimore, Maryland. He had been at that place only a short time when he decided to visit an uncle in Michigan. A few months were spent in that State, when he went to the lumber





regions of Minnesota and Wisconsin. He remained there about four years, after which he went to St. Louis, and then to New Orleans. He was in New Orleans in 1850, and, the "gold fever" then raging throughout the country having seized him, he started for the Pacific coast. The trip was made by steamer by way of Panama, and he landed in San Francisco in March, 1850. He mined only a few months, when he turned his attention to the live-stock business: buying and selling butchers' stock, mainly cattle and sheep. He made considerable money at this, but in 1853 lost nearly all he had accumulated up to that time by an unfortunate venture in the sheep industry. He was in no wise discouraged, however, and by patient industry and good business management was soon on his feet again. In 1856 he conceived the idea that there was considerable money to be made buying and driving cattle through from Texas to California, and came to this State that year in company with a friend, Henry Harrison, for the purpose of trying his fortune in this business. But before the enterprise had been got well under way Mr. Harrison died, and this caused Mr. Smith to change his plans. He decided to locate in Burleson county, and, establishing himself here, was soon engaged in handling cattle on a large and profitable scale. His business, like everybody's else, suffered severely during the war, so much so that by 1862 his bunch of cattle had dwindled to half what it was before the opening of hostilities. He sold out what was left and entered the Confederate service, where he remained until the war was over.

Having married in 1859 Mr. Smith bought, in 1866, a tract of land consisting of 350 acres, on which he settled and turned his attention actively to farming and stock-raising.

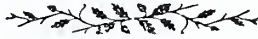
The "flush times" following the close of the war, when all kinds of agricultural products sold for good prices and fortunes were easily made in cattle, brought Mr. Smith much prosperity. His accumulations were regularly invested in good bottom land and in stock, and in this way he laid the foundation of the success which has come to him in later years. His real-estate holdings at this time amount to 2,600 acres, 1,500 acres of which are under fence. His ranch is well stocked and a small portion of it in cultivation. He has been devoted to his business interests exclusively, never having held any office but that of Constable, which he accepted and the duties of which he discharged for a number of years as a matter of accommodation to his neighbors and fellow-citizens. He is a Democrat in politics, having cast his first Presidential vote for Lewis Cass in 1848, and having affiliated with the Democratic party since.

Mr. Smith's wife's maiden name was Eleanor Milam, she being a daughter of John and Levicie Milam and a native of Tennessee, where she was born February 29, 1824. At the time of his marriage to her she was the widow of Drury Miller. Mrs. Smith came to Texas in 1843 with her first husband, settling in Burleson county, where he died in 1858. By her marriage to Mr. Miller Mrs. Smith had five children: Josiah, Liphns, Charles, Mary A. and John, only one of whom is now living, Mary A., the wife of A. Isbell. By her marriage to Mr. Smith she has had two children: Eliza, now deceased, and George L.

This brief biography gives only the outlines of an active, varied and successful career. In what is here said there is hardly a suggestion of the vicissitudes through which Mr. Smith has passed. Life with him has



been a struggle from early manhood, and he has seen it as only those see it who are brought in daily contact with its rugged forces and its blighting uncertainties. He has experienced it through all the changes of prosperity and adversity. He has lived among all kinds and conditions of men; has had to do with all degrees of intelligence and honesty; has followed many pursuits under varying conditions and in widely scattered localities.



**J** ROBERT GROCE, another one of the prosperous farmers of Burleson county, Texas, residing near Tunis, was born in northern Mississippi, November 12, 1842, and was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving only a limited education. He remained with his parents until the war came on, and in 1862, at the age of eighteen, entered the Confederate service as a member of Company A, Twenty-ninth Regiment of Mississippi Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to the Army of Tennessee. He was in some hard-fought battles and many skirmishes. At Lookout mountain, November 24, 1863, he was captured and carried to Rock Island, Illinois, where he was held a prisoner until March, 1865. He was then exchanged and sent to Richmond, Virginia, where he received a thirty-days' parole, and before he reached home Lee surrendered. During all his service he never received a wound.

After the war Mr. Groce remained at home until 1869, coming in December of that year to Burleson county, Texas. Here for two years he rented land. Then he bought 200 acres where he now lives, then all in woods, and to his original purchase he has

since added until he now has 354 acres. He has a good house and other substantial improvements, and has eighty acres under fence. His chief crops are cotton, corn and oats, and he gives considerable attention to the raising of cattle, horses and hogs, hiring hands to carry on his farming operations.

Mr. Groce is a son of John J. and Mary (Nix) Groce, of Tennessee. The Groce family originated in Germany. John J. Groce took a prominent part in local affairs, and was well known and highly respected. He was Captain of a military company at an early day, and for many years served as a Justice of the Peace. By trade he was a mechanic, and he also carried on farming operations. His wife died in 1861, and from time to time his family of children settled in homes of their own until in 1882, left alone, he came to Texas to reside with his son, the subject of this sketch, and here he died the following year. He reared four children, the third born being J. Robert. Only two of the number live in Texas, Mr. Groce having a widowed sister, Mrs. Scott, in this State. One brother died in the army.

Mr. Groce has been twice married. In 1867 he wedded Miss Mary Ivry, a native of Alabama and a daughter of J. J. and E. J. Ivry. Her parents came from Alabama to Texas in 1871, and settled in this county, where her father died in February, 1885. Her mother is still living. Mrs. Groce died February 12, 1878, leaving two children, viz.: Lela, at home; and Emma J., wife of T. L. Homes, a farmer and stock-raiser of Burleson county. May 13, 1880, Mr. Groce married Miss S. A. Alderman, who was born in Mississippi, October 21, 1854, and reared in that State. Of her parents, James and Mary E. (Sanders) Alderman, we record that the former was a native of North



Carolina, and died of sickness while in the service of the late war, in October, 1862; that the latter was married again, came to Texas with her family in 1878, and is still living. Mr. Groce and his present wife have three children, namely: Jennie Mabel, born February 14, 1883; Roger Q., July 22, 1885; and Seth Shepard, September 12, 1888.

Mrs. Groce is a member of the Baptist Church, as also was Mr. Groce's first wife. Fraternally, Mr. Groce is a Mason. He votes with the Democratic party, and while he takes an active interest in politics does not aspire to official position, always having declined to hold office when solicited by his friends to become a candidate.



**C**APTAIN J. W. RAGSDALE, an enterprising and successful business man of Tunis, Burleson county, Texas, is a good type of the genial Southern gentleman.

He was born in Mississippi, July 8, 1841, and was reared on a farm, his early boyhood days being spent chiefly at Aberdeen. He is descended from prominent and respected families of Mississippi and is connected with some of the most distinguished families of Texas. His parents were Daniel W. and Nancy H. (Greer) Ragsdale, and his father was a native of North Carolina. His grandfather Ragsdale came to this country from Scotland and settled in North Carolina, where, while serving as Sheriff of his county, he was killed. Daniel W. Ragsdale was a planter all his life and was a prominent man in his day. The Captain's mother was a daughter of Henry Greer, who was of Scotch-Irish descent, and who was first a resident of Georgia and afterward of Mississippi, where

he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. The parents of our subject had a family of eleven children, as follows: Mary, wife of Dr. Richard Harrison; Susan, wife of C. F. Gates, Mr. and Mrs. Gates both being deceased; Ruth T., wife of A. H. Davidson, both deceased, he having been killed in the army; Jane, wife of Major J. W. Wicks, both now deceased; Lucy, first wife of Colonel M. W. Sims, a wealthy farmer of Bryan, this State; Dan H., who was killed in the war; Major Samuel G., a practicing lawyer of Caldwell, Texas; Margaret N., who married Captain T. J. Bell, a lawyer of El Paso, Texas; James W., whose name heads this article; Walter G. and one (twins of Walter G.) who died in infancy. Daniel W. Ragsdale, the father, died in 1852, and in 1857 his widow and children came to Texas and located at Austin. In 1859 J. W. was sent to Virginia to complete his education in the Emory and Henry College, and was a student in that institution at the time of the firing on Sumter.

At the age of eighteen, young Ragsdale followed his mother's advice, left college and returned to his old home in Mississippi, where he entered the army of the Confederacy as a private in Company K, Twenty-third Mississippi Alcorn Rebels. During the early part of his service he was captured and was held as a prisoner at Indianapolis six months. After being exchanged, he was elected Second Lieutenant of his company, was afterward promoted to First Lieutenant, and still later to the rank of Captain. He remained in active service until he was wounded at Atlanta, Georgia. On one occasion he, without assistance, captured a Yankee colonel of the Eighty-eighth Illinois Regiment and brought him into line and handed him over to the proper authorities. At Atlanta





he was wounded by a shell which struck his right ankle. That was August 12, 1864, and after recuperating, and while on crutches, he had his commander report him ready for post conscript duty. But, the war closing, he went to the home of some of his relatives, and it was not until December, 1865, that he returned to Texas. From the effects of his wound his leg had to be amputated below the knee. He was a brave, efficient soldier and an honored commander.

Soon after his return to Texas he bought land in Burleson county and engaged in farming, and this land he still owns. He also owns two other farms, all of which he rents. Since 1876 he has been engaged in merchandising at Tunis. In 1888 he admitted his bookkeeper as a partner, and since that date has conducted business under the firm name of Ragsdale & Wimberley. They deal in general merchandise, taking cotton and produce in exchange for their goods, and are doing an extensive business. Formerly Captain Ragsdale dealt in stock, but has not of recent date.

Captain Ragsdale was married in 1867 to Miss Florence Goodwin, a native of Virginia and a daughter of John and Sally Goodwin, both of the Old Dominion. Her father came with his family to Burleson county, Texas, in 1856, and settled on a farm, where he died in 1870. Mrs. Ragsdale died in 1874. She had four children, two of whom died young. The others are James W. and John G., the former being married and settled at Caldwell, Texas, and the latter now attending college in Virginia. In 1876 the Captain married Miss Lily Fountain, who was born in Alabama, daughter of J. A. and Mary Fountain, natives of South Carolina. The Fountain family came to Texas in 1874 and settled in Burleson county. Mr. Fountain

is now a resident of Bryan, and his wife is deceased. By his second wife Captain Ragsdale had three children, all of whom died in childhood, and in 1884 his wife, too, passed away.

The subject of our sketch is identified with the Masonic fraternity. He affiliates with the Democratic party and takes an active and leading part in politics, but does not aspire to office. He has filled various official positions. He was appointed by the County Commissioners to serve an unexpired term as Justice of the Peace, and was elected County Commissioner and served one term. He has held the post office at Tunis since 1876. The Captain is well known throughout this county and his friends are many and his hospitality unbounded.



**S**IMEON B. GLENN, who resides on a farm near Merle, in Burleson county, Texas, was born in Mississippi, March 4, 1849. He is a son of William M. and Jane E. Glenn. The former, a native of Georgia, has all his life been a farmer and is still residing on a farm in Mississippi, having reached the advanced age of seventy-three years. Mr. Glenn's maternal grandfather was William Vernor, an early settler of Mississippi. Simeon B. was the second-born in a family of seven children, he and a brother, William Vernor, being the only ones of the family who came to Texas. This brother is now a wealthy rancher of McCulloch county. Mr. Glenn's mother died in 1885.

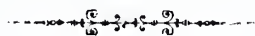
Simeon B. Glenn came to Texas in 1870, arriving here in August, and, after visiting several counties, settled, in December of that year, in Burleson county, where he has since



resided. Soon after selecting this location he bought land, and, after his marriage, which event occurred in 1872, settled on it. He cultivates about seventy acres, renting some land, and he also gives considerable attention to the raising of cattle and horses. This place is known as the Jacob Long farm, it being among the first farms settled in the county. There are rails on it now that were made fifty-six years ago. Mr. Long was at one time extensively engaged in raising hogs, and controlled the market here.

Ever since he settled here Mr. Glenn has taken a commendable interest in the public affairs of his community. He affiliates with the Democratic party. He has served four terms as Justice of the Peace and one term as County Commissioner, faithfully discharging the important duties devolving upon him, but refusing to hold office longer. He has also filled other minor official positions. Few men in this part of the county are more popular than he.

Mr. Glenn was married in 1872 to Miss Irene Roberts, who was born in Alabama, February 21, 1847. Her father, Edmond Roberts, a native of Alabama, came to Texas in 1860 and settled in Washington county. In 1867 he died in Bryan, Brazos county. Mr. and Mrs. Glenn have had six children, four of whom died young. Those living are Kittie and Simeon, both at home.



**F**RANK M. ALDRIDGE, who is extensively engaged in ranching in Burleson county, Texas, was born in Lime-stone county, this State, May 26, 1863. That same year his father moved with his family to Mississippi, and from there entered the army. In Mississippi young Aldridge

was reared. In 1882, at the age of nineteen, he returned to Jefferson county, Texas, where he entered upon a railroad career, which he continued until 1890, in the meantime being promoted to the position of conductor. In 1887 he bought a tract of land, and upon retiring from the railroad in 1890 settled on it. This tract comprises 1,660 acres, is bounded on the east by the Brazos river, and a part of it is located on the Teel prairie. Some of the remains of the old historic Spanish town and fort of Tenoxtitlan, which were destroyed many years ago, and are still to be found here. Of this large tract of land Mr. Aldridge has 1,100 acres under fence, used chiefly for pasture. He raises all kinds of stock, and makes a specialty of breeding a high grade. He has a registered bull and a fine jack and Percheron horse. Aside from his ranching, Mr. Aldridge is also interested in the sawmill business, being a partner with his brother in a sawmill in the lumber regions of Tyler county, Texas.

The subject of our sketch is a son of W. H. and Sarah E. (Talbert) Aldridge. His father and grandfather Aldridge were natives of Alabama, and his grandfather Talbert was born in South Carolina. He is one of a family of four children, as follows: Laura A., wife of Joseph E. Harrison, of Mississippi; Frank M.; William H., who is engaged in the milling business in Rockland, Tyler county, Texas; and Charley C., of Rockland, who is also a member of the firm in milling. The father died in Mississippi in 1880, and the mother passed away in 1878, during the yellow fever epidemic at Grenada, Mississippi.

Frank M. Aldridge was married September 25, 1889, to Miss Annie L. Gage, a native of Hill county, Texas, daughter of Robert J. Gage, formerly of Mississippi but now a farmer of Hill county, Texas. Mrs. Aldridge



died July 19, 1802, leaving two children: Shirley W., born November 3, 1890, and Talbert R., June 22, 1892.

Politically, Mr. Aldridge affiliates with the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in politics, but does not aspire to office. Fraternally, he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the Order of Railroad Conductors.



**W**ILLIAM E. MAY, a farmer residing in the vicinity of Tunis, Burleson county, Texas, dates his arrival in this State in 1869. Upon coming to Texas, he first located at Millican, in Brazos county, where he ran a photograph gallery for a time, and also one at Caldwell. Afterward he taught school at Millican one year. In 1873 he went to Fort Bend county and taught a term of school, and the latter part of that year came to Burleson county, where he was engaged in teaching until 1875. About that time he was married and soon afterward bought a farm and settled down to agricultural pursuits, in which occupation he has since been engaged, also representing the Singer Manufacturing Company in this county with success. His first purchase was fifty acres. Subsequently he bought, sold and traded land, and at this writing has 200 acres, thirty-five of which are under cultivation, his chief crops being corn and cotton. The rest of his land is in pasture. He gives considerable attention to the raising of cattle and hogs.

Mr. May was born in Louisa county, Virginia, August 28, 1848; was reared on a farm and received a good education in the Locust Dale Academy. He is the youngest of the eleven children of John S. and Margaret (Poindexter) May, both natives of the Old Dominion. John S. May was a man of prom-

inence in his day. He was a wealthy planter and large slave-owner; was a leading Democrat, and County Judge of his county. In the war of 1812 he took an active part. The Poindexters had royal blood in their veins. They were of French and English descent. Two brothers of our subject—John S. and Isaac N.—preceeded him to Texas. The latter returned to Virginia and is now principal of the academy at Oakland; is also a minister in the Baptist Church. The other, John S., is now engaged in farming in San Saba county, this State.

Mr. May married Miss Sallie Newcomb, who was born in this county, September 14, 1854, daughter of Dr. W. B. Newcomb, a native of Caroline county, Virginia. Dr. Newcomb went from Virginia to Mississippi when a boy, and when he grew up studied medicine there. He came to Texas before the late war, and was engaged in the practice of his profession until within a short time before his death, which occurred in March, 1877. He also carried on farming. Mr. and Mrs. May have nine children, as follows: Clarence and Clara (twins), Walter, Ethel, Bennie Mabel, Erwing, Sally and an infant.

Mr. May's political views are in harmony with Democratic principles. He has served as Justice of the Peace since 1890, having been re-elected in 1892. He has also held various other local offices. He is a member of the Grange. With church and Sabbath-school work he is also prominently identified, both he and his wife being Baptists. Formerly he was superintendent of the Sabbath-school, and now has charge of the Bible class.

He has lately entered into a co-partnership with Captain J. W. Ragsdale, and is engaged in a general mercantile business at Tunis, Texas, under the firm name of Ragsdale & May, and is doing a fair business.







*Edward Rees*



Mr. May does not use tobacco or intoxicating drinks, an example followed by all his family. Mrs. May is a thorough housekeeper and takes great delight in preparing a fine dinner, an art in which she is an expert, and as a nurse in sickness she has few equals. The children are all bright and intelligent, and will no doubt be an honor to their parents.



**E**DWARD REEVES.—More than a century and a half ago there came from England and settled in Virginia one Edward Reeves. He had a son named Robert, who was born in Virginia and who, when a young man went to North Carolina, where he married, settled and raised a considerable family of children, five of whom were sons. The eldest of these, named Edward, was born in Bladen county, North Carolina, about 1799, and at about the age of twenty-seven married Nancy Melvin, daughter of Robert Melvin of that county, and by this marriage had three children, the eldest of whom, bearing the old family name of Edward, is the subject of this sketch. Edward Reeves, of whom we here write, was born in Bladen county, North Carolina, July 11, 1838. He was reared in that county to the age of sixteen, when, in 1854, his parents with their three children started for Texas. In accordance with the custom of those days the trip was undertaken by boat, and had been accomplished successfully as far as Vicksburg, Mississippi, when the father, who had been taken with cholera on board the steamer, died. The widow instead of continuing her journey went to relatives in Rankin county, Mississippi, where several years were spent in that state of uncertainty and sorrow which had been brought about by

the sudden death of the husband and father. In the meantime, letters having passed between the family and a relative, Tolbert Reeves, who was then in Texas, young Edward decided to come on and try his fortunes in the land to which the family had looked forward as their future home. Through the influence and assistance of his uncle he came out, in 1860, and located at Caldwell, Burleson county, where Tolbert Reeves then lived. He was given a clerkship in his uncle Tolbert's store, and from his earnings soon saved enough to assist his mother and younger brother and sister to move out. They came in 1861 and settled in Caldwell. The mother died here in 1869. The brother and sister continue to reside in this county, the former, James T. Reeves, being a well-to-do farmer residing in Caldwell; and the latter is now Mrs. Mary A. Smith, wife of Ellis D. Smith.

Edward Reeves, like most of the successful business men of this country, began his career not only without means, but with little scholastic or other training. He had just passed his majority when he came to Texas. His boyhood and youth had been spent on the farm, and what schooling he had received had been such as he could get during the brief winter months when there was a slackness of work. He handled his first article of merchandise in Caldwell, in which place his entire business life has been spent. After clerking one year he took \$250, which he had saved, and with this and a like amount borrowed from his uncle Tolbert, he began business for himself. He was only fairly prosperous during the period covered by the war, but with the return of peace and the settling of the country, from 1870 on his mercantile interests grew rapidly, until now, after thirty-two years of active business life, his establishment is one of the largest, and his rating



the highest of any merchant in Burleson county. Mr. Reeves has sold thousands and thousands of dollars' worth of goods since he first opened his small \$500 stock of merchandise in Caldwell, and has witnessed the development not only of the mercantile industries of this place, but of every interest of this locality. When he began business here thirty-two years ago, Houston was the market where the country merchants purchased most of their goods, and the point to which the products of the country were taken for sale. Very little cotton was then grown, the main dependence being cattle and hogs. Caldwell in those days controlled a large trade in this general section. Mr. Reeves grew with the town, confining himself strictly to business pursuits, his chief reliance being merchandise. He has had investments, however, in other lines and now owns considerable realty, including lands and lots, and is a partner in interest in the banking-house of W. Reeves & Co. at Caldwell. He has been exceptionally fortunate, and is credited by those who have known him long as deserving all he has achieved in the way of success.

In his domestic life, however, Mr. Reeves has not been as fortunate as in his business career. Some shadows have fallen across his pathway. In 1866 he married Miss Mary J. Simpson, a daughter of R. S. Simpson, then residing in Caldwell, but originally from Alabama, whence he had moved to Texas in 1854. This lady died about 1874, leaving three children: Lula Jane, now the wife of Neill Cromartie, of Caldwell; Edward and James. Two years later Mr. Reeves married Miss Annie Eliza Cromartie, who like himself was a native of Bladen county, North Carolina, being a daughter of William K. Cromartie. To this union two children were born: Annie and Xemines. The wife

and mother died in 1882. Since that time Mr. Reeves has made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Cromartie.

Mr. Reeves' parents and grandparents were members of the Methodist Church, and he was reared under the influence of the doctrine of John Wesley, but on arriving at maturity he took a membership in the Baptist Church, whose customs and ordinances he has since observed.

Mr. Reeves has always enjoyed good health, and, having led a moral, temperate life, he has the prospects of many years of activity and usefulness before him. He comes of a long-lived stock, and has by heredity a strong hold upon this world. His grandfather Reeves died at the age of ninety-eight, while his grandfather Melvin lived to be ninety. His father was one of a family of brothers and sisters in which there was not a death until the youngest was past fifty. They were all of good, strong, robust constitutions, sound alike in body and mind, in national faith and religious convictions, which qualities have been transmitted in a reasonable degree to their descendants.



**R** T. WILKINS, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born in Simpson county, Kentucky, April 22, 1842, a son of Dr. J. H. and Melvina (Salmonds) Wilkins, natives of Kentucky. The father was of Scotch and Welsh extraction, practiced medicine for a time in his native State, and then came to Texas. He bought a number of slaves, and purchased a large tract of land adjoining Bastrop, where he died in 1875. He cultivated 700 acres of this land. Mrs. Wilkins was a daughter of Nathan Salmonds, a native of Virginia, but deceased in Ken-





tucky. He was a noted tobacco-raiser, and was a large slave-owner. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins were the parents of ten children, viz.: R. H., who served in the late war, is now in California; Nathan, who died in Arkansas; J. C., a farmer of Bastrop county; W. D., also engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county; R. T., our subject; Mary married J. C. Duvall, and both are now deceased; Bettie, wife of W. J. King, editor of the Advertiser of Bastrop, resides in Salado, Bell county; America, deceased, was the wife of J. M. Johnson, of Austin; Anna, wife of T. N. Harris, of Galveston; and Ellen, who married a Mr. Shanklin, a farmer of Bell county. Mrs. Wilkins died in 1861. Both she and her husband were members of the Christian Church.

R. T. Wilkins, the subject of this sketch, came with his parents to Texas in 1858, locating at Bastrop, this county, where he received a good education. After reaching suitable age he clerked in a store about five years, and remained under the parental roof until the opening of the late war. In 1861 he entered Company F, R. P. Allen's regiment of infantry for six months, and was then transferred to regular service in Walker's division. Mr. Wilkins took part in the battles of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Milliken's Bend, and all the important engagements in Louisiana and Arkansas. Twelve months before the close of the war he was transferred to J. R. Baylor's regiment of cavalry, of which he was made First Lieutenant, and was in command of the company at the surrender. After returning home he superintended his father's farm eight months, and from that time was employed as clerk in a store until 1868. In that year he began agricultural pursuits, and in 1871 purchased his present farm of 400 acres, 200 acres of which are

under a good state of cultivation. His land lies in the Colorado river valley, and his dwelling is located on the bluff overlooking the valley and Smithville, the latter about two miles distant. Mr. Wilkins rents a part of his land, is engaged in general farming, and is also giving much attention to the raising of horses and mules. He has a Morgan and Cleveland bay stallion and a fine Kentucky jack.

Mr. Wilkins was married April 23, 1868, to Miss Josephine Fancett, a daughter of John Fancett, a native of England. The latter came to America when young, was raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, came to Texas in 1838, and still resides in Bastrop county. Our subject and wife have six children: John F., Ada M., Claude R., Pearl, Sue, Sumpter, and Cora. In his political views Mr. Wilkins is a Democrat, and socially is a member of the Masonic order. Both he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church.



JOHN T. BLACK, one of the pioneers and leading farmers of Bastrop county, was born in Talladega county, Alabama, October 19, 1846, a son of Lemuel and Virginia (Crutchfield) Black, natives of Tennessee and Virginia respectively. A sister of Lemuel, Agnes Black, married Ludwell L. Rector, a member of one of the pioneer and most prominent families of Bastrop county. The parents of our subject removed to Alabama with their parents when young, and were afterward married in that State. About the year 1849 they came to Texas, locating first in Bastrop county, but soon afterward purchased a farm in Hays and Comal counties, and located near Mountain City, in the former county. In 1862 Mr. Black joined Hood's



Texas brigade, served in the Army of the Tennessee, and died at Rich Church Hospital, in October, 1862, having been taken sick soon after joining the army. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died in 1853, at the age of twenty-eight years, eleven months and five days. They had four children, three of whom grew to years of maturity: William H., who died in 1892; John T., our subject; Edward W., deceased in 1852; and George M., who died in 1880. In 1856 Mr. Black married Kate N. Josey, and they also had four children, only one of whom lived to be grown. Virginia, wife of J. M. Adams, of Hays county.

John T. Black, the subject of this sketch, received his education in Hays and Bastrop counties. In 1864 he joined Captain F. B. S. Cocke's company, Benevidas' regiment of cavalry, and served principally under Colonel Ford. He took part in but one engagement, which was the last one fought during the war, at the mouth of the Rio Grande. They captured 200 United States troops. The company disbanded at Brownsville, and after returning home Mr. Black attended school in Bastrop county for a time. He then farmed on rented land for five years, after which he purchased the place he now owns, the same comprising 1,300 acres, 400 acres of which was under a fine state of cultivation. Mr. Black paid \$8 per acre for his land. He has since sold a part of his place, and now has 325 acres under cultivation, raising principally corn and cotton. He makes a specialty of the raising of Jersey cows, and at present has thirty head, after having sold a fine herd in 1892.

In 1874 Mr. Black was united in marriage to Miss Maida W. Winston, a native of Charlottesville, Virginia, and a daughter of O. P. and Annie W. (Watts) Winston, also born in

that State. The parents came to Texas in 1872, locating on Alum creek, in Bastrop county, where they were engaged in agricultural pursuits. They afterward purchased a farm further down the Colorado river, where the father still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Winston had eight children: Maida W.; B. L.; O. H. P. and J. W. (twins, the latter of whom died in 1884); E. G.; P. V.; Effa A., and one deceased when young. The wife and mother died in 1884, having been a leading member in the Episcopal Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Black have had eight children, five of whom grew to years of maturity—William W., Chester C., Edward B. P., Rector W. and John T. Mrs. Black is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In political matters, our subject votes with the Democratic party, and is now Justice of the Peace of precinct No. 5, to which position he has been elected for three terms in succession. Socially, he affiliates with the A. F. & A. M, J. Nixon Lodge, No. 421, and also with Bastrop Chapter, No. 95.



**C** C. HOOPER, of Taylor, Williamson county, Texas, is largely interested in farming, and is one of the most progressive young men in the county.

The date of his advent to this county and State is April 26, 1884. He hails from that grand old Southern State, Alabama, that has given so many good men to Texas. His birth occurred July 28, 1859. He grew up on a farm, and was educated in the district schools and the academy at Springville, Alabama. His family history traces back as follows:

M. S. Hooper, the father of C. C., was born in St. Clair county, Alabama, May 19, 1818. He is a son of John Hooper, who was



the first permanent white settler in St. Clair county, and who emigrated to that place from the North about the beginning of the nineteenth century. He was born January 16, 1782, a son of Richard Hooper, who was a patriot soldier in the Revolution, and a brother of William Hooper, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

John Hooper married Ester E. Goodwin and became the father of the following named children: James; M. S.; Thomas; John; Rachel, who married a Mr. Montgomery; and Martha, the wife of a Mr. Cornelius. John Hooper was a man of strong physique, industrious and ambitious. He always took considerable interest in politics in his county; was always a Democrat, never voted any other ticket, never missed voting at an important election, and, what is more unusual and wonderful, cast his last presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland after he had reached the age of 100 years. He was a successful business man, made money rapidly, was a large slave-owner and accumulated much property.

M. S. Hooper married Elizabeth Cox, a daughter of Bowling Cox, whose wife was a Miss Cabiness of Georgia. This branch of the Cox family was a very prominent one in Virginia and is related to the famous John Randolph. A brief account of this family will be very appropriate in this article.

Bowling Cox settled in St. Clair county, Alabama, about sixty-four years ago. Mrs. Cox was of French-Huguenot descent, her ancestors emigrating with the Bayard family during the reign of the wicked Louis IX. Bowling Cox's oldest child wore a breastpin of gold, an exact copy in miniature of the key to the room in the Tower of London, in which Anne Boleyn spent the last night of her life. This daughter also had nine silver spoons on which the name of the unfortunate

queen was engraved, together with the family Bible, printed in London in 1680. This Bible is now in the possession of Mrs. T. L. Nunnally, of Springville, Alabama, a cousin of our subject. It is believed that the family of Bowling Cox are lineally descended from Anne Boleyn, the mother of the good "Queen Bess," who governed England through a long and memorable reign over 350 years ago. Nannie Cox, daughter of Bowling Cox, who married Archie Walker, is yet living in St. Clair county, Alabama, at the age of ninety-one years; Martha, deceased, was the wife of E. Mayfield, of Talladega county, Alabama; John; Bowling; Elizabeth, the mother of our subject; Mary; William; Francina, wife of Lewis Dupree; Marion; Julia, who married first William King, and secondly John Long; and America, who married Travis Alford.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Hooper are: John, who died young; Francina, the wife of James Landrum; Bowling, who married Alice Osborne; Addie, now Mrs. Dr. M. E. Dozier, all in Alabama. In Texas are John G. Shorter, C. C., Gus B., and America, now Mrs. William Moore, of Galveston.

M. S. Hooper was a planter's son. He secured a fair English education in the district schools of his native county, and after his marriage settled down to the vocation of a farmer.

When the Civil war burst upon the country with all its horrors, Mr. Hooper responded to the call of the Confederate Government and gave four years of faithful military service in defence of his invaded country. At the close of the war he returned to the farm and began building up his lost estate. The conditions were changed; labor could not be depended upon as it had been, fields were washed and injured by ditches, the soil was





poor and other unfavorable conditions existed to make the life of a farmer unsatisfactory. Mr. Hooper decided, after a number of years, to seek a better country. He accordingly came on a prospecting tour to Texas. He was so well pleased with what he saw that he returned to Alabama for his family and brought them out at once. He now resides near Taylor on a fine farm, well improved, and is contented, prosperous and happy.

C. C. Hooper was engaged in merchandising, milling and farming, after reaching his majority. In May, 1883, he received a message from Morgan C. Hamilton, ex-United States Senator from Texas, and a wealthy capitalist of this State, announcing his intention to visit the family. He is an uncle of Mrs. Hooper's mother, to whom, being one of the heirs of Hugh Coupland, he was desirous of making a present of one-fifth interest in a tract of land, containing 8,000 acres, near Taylor, and the same interest in 1,000 head of cattle and other property. This was a complete and appreciated surprise to the members of the family. Arrangements were at once made to move to Texas after Mr. Hooper should visit the property and learn something of its value. The following year the family moved out, a division of the property was soon made for the benefit of the heirs, and the family located on the portion chosen by them. Here they are laying the foundation for an admirable home. In 1886 a residence costing \$3,700 was erected. The farm has been inclosed by fifteen miles of barbed-wire fence, and 700 acres have been brought under cultivation. Besides his country property, Mr. Hooper owns twelve acres on Washington Heights, near Taylor, a most desirable piece of property for investment.

Politically, Mr. Hooper is interested in the success of the Democratic party. He fre-

quently attends conventions as a delegate, and he helped to swell the multitude that shouted for Cleveland and Stevenson at the last Chicago convention.

March 24, 1881, Mr. Hooper married Miss Julia R., daughter of Charles M. Pearson, of Alabama. Mr. Pearson was a merchant and miller of Springville, Alabama, a very successful business man, estimated to be worth, at his death, \$60,000. He owned the first and the finest mill in St. Clair county. He died at the age of thirty-two years, just one year after the birth of his daughter. His wife, whose maiden name was Miss Nancy Coupland, is a daughter of Hugh Coupland, who married Karen Hamilton, a sister of Morgan C. Hamilton, before mentioned. The parents of Senator Hamilton were James Douglas and Nancy (Riley) Hamilton, who reared seven children. The children of Hugh Coupland were; Constantine; Hattie, who married Marcus McMillion; Nancy J.; T. V.; James D., who married Mollie Buchanan; Julia, the wife of Jesse Stancel; and Franklin, who died unmarried. Mrs. Pearson is now a widow, and resides with her daughter, her husband having died in 1862.

Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hooper: Charles Morgan, and an infant which died in 1886.



**D** O. COX.—The termination of the Mexican war of 1846-'47 in favor of the United States and the disbanding on Texas soil of many volunteer regiments from the older States brought to the feeble settlements of this state a large number of valuable citizens whose services were needed in the communities where they took up their residence. Stalwart young men, these for



the most part were generally unmarried, men of intelligence, patriotic, brave, active, alert, enterprising, and, barring a certain amount of dash and zeal in arms, sturdy in purpose—men who were eminently fitted for the task of laying the foundation of a new State like Texas, as they had vindicated its honor by their valor abroad.

One of these men was William Cox, a native of Alabama, who enlisted in the Federal service from that State when the call was made for volunteers against Mexico, and who, after rendering faithful service in behalf of his country, settled down to the ways of peace on Texas soil. He was then a young man, unmarried, and after drifting around for a short time he took up his residence in Burleson county. Here he shortly afterwards met and married Cordelia Watson, a daughter of William Watson, who had settled here about 1840. With his newly acquired companion William Cox established himself on a farm and embarked in agricultural and stock-raising pursuits. He began with very limited means, but made steady advance until, at the time of his death in 1860, he had amassed considerable property for the times. He left surviving him a widow and six children, the latter being John A., David O., Charles H., George T. James W., and Finetta, who was afterward married to S. W. Hilliard. Of these but three are now living: David O., whose name heads this sketch; James W., now a resident of Young county, Texas, and Mrs. Hilliard, who lives in Burleson county. The mother, who was a daughter of William and Rebecca Clark Watson, was a native of Georgia, where she was born about 1832. She was the eldest of twelve children and was verging on to womanhood when her parents came to Texas. She died in this

county in 1863. Her father was not only an early settler of this county, but was for many years an honored citizen of the same, having served as Sheriff and held many other local positions.

The birth of David O. Cox occurred in Burleson county on November 22, 1852. The death of his father, in 1860 and that of his mother, three years later, left him an orphan at the age of eleven. His boyhood and early youth were passed in the home of his maternal aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Oldham, at whose hands he received kind treatment. His time was divided between the labors of the farm and the range and attendance at the local schools, where he managed to pick up the rudiments of a common English education. In 1875 he married Miss Susan Matilda Perry, of Burleson county, and settled on a rented farm, on which he lived until 1879. That year he made his first purchase of land, buying from his aunt, Mrs. Oldham, a tract of fifty acres, on which he took up his residence. He met with reasonably good success in those years, and about 1883 bought 243 acres of his present place, where he settled and has since lived. He has added to this place until he now owns 600 acres, about half of which is in cultivation and is well-stocked and well-improved. Mr. Cox raises a variety of products, not believing it safe to rely upon one crop. He is also devoting some attention to improving his stock, raising the grade the best he can with the means at hand. He is an intelligent and thoughtful farmer, a man of enterprise, thrifty and energetic. Having been trained in the school of adversity he has learned to do for himself and to rely largely upon his own efforts. He belongs to the Burleson County Co-operative Association and is a stock-holder in the oil mills at



Caldwell. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never held any political office, and unless there is a radical change in his views he is not likely to, since, with his present way of thinking, there is no place of trust or emolument to which he might aspire that would be worth to him the effort that it would cost to get it.

Mrs. Cox, like her husband, was born in Burleson county, her parents moving here in 1854. She is the third of five children, the others being John W., Claiborne, Walker W., and Kate, now Mrs. J. B. Tanner.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox have had nine children: Iona Cordelia and Leona Kate, both now deceased; Willie May; Walker W.; Tinnie; Nellie; Charles Milligan; Jesse Harold, and Essie. Mrs. Cox is a member of the Baptist Church.



**C** W. HEMPHILL, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born on the farm where he still resides, September 28, 1848, a son of C. M. and Elizabeth (Snoddy) Hemphill, the former a native of Georgia, and the latter of Alabama. C. M. Hemphill came to Texas with his father and family in 1835. The latter, Colonel William Hemphill, settled on the Brazos river, and was accidentally killed soon afterward. He had a family of nine children, viz.: Zeno; M. L.; A. B.; W. A.; Ulysses; Andrew; C. M., the father of our subject; Ellen, who married Captain Jack Nash; and Eloesa married M. O. Diamond, a merchant of Bastrop. Two of the children died before coming to Texas, and the remainder lived in this county until their death. In 1836 C. M. Hemphill, the father of our subject, located the farm where the latter now resides, was a member of the ranging

service, and suffered the privations and hardships of a pioneer life. His farm of 800 acres was well improved, and his death occurred in 1862. He was married in 1845, and his wife survived him until 1874. She came to this State with an uncle, Edwin Alexander, who was robbed and killed by Mexicans. Mr. and Mrs. Hemphill had seven children, viz.: Margaret, who married W. S. Miller, is now deceased, leaving six children: C. W. our subject; Gillespie, a resident of the old homestead; Prudence, wife of W. B. Bryant, a farmer of Bastrop county; Tony E., still unmarried; Cuba, wife of Wade Hemphill, a distant relative; and R. L., at home. Gillespie, the second son, was married in December, 1873, to Miss Alice Bryant, a daughter of William Bryant, a native of Tennessee. The latter came to Texas in 1836, and, after several changes, located in Bastrop county, where he died about 1884. At one time he was a member of the ranging service with Captain Jack Hays. His five children were all born in this county, viz.: Sally, J. L., Jennie, W. B. and Alice. Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie Hemphill have had seven children, six now living: Annie, Cora L., Nora B., Benlah A., Florence G. and Claud. They are members of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**J** AMES H. CRAFT, one of the leading farmers of Bastrop county, was born in this county, May 26, 1853, the only child of Samuel and Melissa (White) Craft. The parents died when our subject was only five years of age, and he was reared by his grandfather, Hamilton White, a pioneer settler of Bastrop county. James H. received his education in Bastrop and Salado, Texas,







*Robt. H. Flanniken*



and at the age of twenty years began work on his own account. His guardian then turned over his trust to its rightful owner, and Mr. Craft purchased a farm on the Colorado river. After remaining there for a time he moved to the place he had inherited from his mother's estate, where he spent two years. The land inherited from his father's estate was located about fourteen miles from Bastrop. Mr. Craft next purchased a farm on Cedar creek, and in 1883 bought the farm where he now resides, known as the B. M. Hubbard place, and comprising 540 acres, 300 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. He also owns a 500-acre tract on Cedar creek, with 300 acres cultivated, and 300 acres of prairie land, which he purchased in 1877. He is considered one of the most successful farmers of Bastrop county, and his place is stocked with the best mules and horses to be purchased for farming purposes. Mr. Craft has accumulated most of his property by his own industry and economy.

December 15, 1874, he was united in marriage to Miss Della B. Trigg, a daughter of Lanson and Allie E. Trigg. The mother is now the wife of Captain William A. Young. Mr. and Mrs. Craft have had eight children: Ida O., Wallas D., Vesta E., Beulah, Lena R., Walter, Allie J. (deceased), and Lulu Etta. Mrs. Craft is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church. Our subject takes no active interest in political matters, although, in 1891, he was chosen County Commissioner of Bastrop county. In 1892 he refused to make the run for the office. In his social relations, he affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Gamble Lodge, No. 244.

C.W. Hemphill, the subject of this sketch, still resides on the old homestead, which has never been divided. 350 acres of the place

is under a fine state of cultivation. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and is also a stock-holder in a co-operative gin. He was formerly a Democrat in his political views, but now affiliates with the third party. Socially, Mr. Hemphill is identified with the Masonic fraternity, and religiously, is a member of the Baptist Church.



ROBERT H. FLANNIKEN, one of the few survivors of that band of pioneers who began to make Milam Land District, or as it was sometimes called, the "State of Milam County," their homes fifty-odd years ago, is a native of Mecklenburg county, North Carolina, where he was born on July 18, 1819. He comes of Irish, Scotch and Dutch ancestry, though his own parents were natives of North Carolina, born in Mecklenburg county. His father, James N. Flanniken, was born in 1795, and his mother, whose maiden name was Eleanor A. Hood, in 1800. His paternal grandfather, David Flanniken, was born in Ireland, coming to this country when young. He served in the war of the Revolution and bore from the field of conflict the evidences of his bravery and patriotism in the shape of an ounce ball embedded in his body, and received in an engagement with Cornwallis' soldiers. He survived this wound, however, as well as the attacks of disease for many years, dying at the advanced age of eighty. His brother, John Flanniken, was a member of the Mecklenburg convention, which passed the celebrated "Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence," claimed by some historians to have antedated that passed by the Philadelphia convention.

James N. Flanniken and Eleanor A. Hood were married about 1818 and emigrated in



1826 to Alabama, settling in Russell's valley, where four of their children were born and all of them reared. Mrs. Flanniken died there in 1846, and the father shortly afterward came to Texas and made his home here until his death, which occurred in 1873. The children of this couple were: Robert H. of this article; Joseph L., Elias O., Martha J., Cyrus A., John W., and David W. Besides the subject of this sketch three of these, Joseph L., Elias O., and David W., are still living, being residents of Bell county, this State.

Robert H. Flanniken was reared in Russell's valley, Franklin county, Alabama, growing up on a farm. He came to Texas at the age of twenty-one, making his first stop in what was then Milam, now Burleson county, securing work at a sawmill then in operation at a point near where Cedar creek empties into the Brazos river. This was in 1840, at which date there were no settlers northwest of the place just mentioned, the settlements being confined to points along the Brazos river. Mr. Flanniken thus became one of the first settlers of this region, and as he was young, active, and, as he expresses it, "considerably on the go," his recollections of those days are of interest and value to this work, and some of them will here be given in practically the same language in which he narrated them to the writer.

"Yes," said Mr. Flanniken, "I have been in Texas a good while,—longer, it seems to me, when I measure the time by the progress of events than when I reckon it by years. I have witnessed the making of a great deal of Texas history, and I have known at different times in life many of Texas' most eminent men. Like most of those of my age whom you will meet, my mind dwells more on the Texas of the past than that of the

present or the future. This was indeed a great country when I first came to it, a beautiful country and one that was inhabited by a brave, generous, splendid people. Settlers were few in those days, and I had not been here long before I knew personally every man, woman and child within a radius of forty miles of where I first stopped. Whether for merit or not, it would hardly be becoming in me to say, but for some reason or other my admiring fellow-citizens soon called me to office after I took up my residence in this locality; and from a stripling of a young fellow, comparatively inexperienced in the ways of the world, I soon came to be a public functionary of considerable authority, and a man who was looked up to in a general way by a large number of my fellow-men. While this was naturally gratifying to my Irish spirit, it brought with it its due weight of responsibility, and in many instances its hardships and personal annoyances. The office of Sheriff is the one to which I was first called, and filled. I was made Sheriff in the early '40s, my title being Sheriff of Milam county, my bailiwick extending from the Brazos river to the Rocky mountains, and beyond, including the then important town of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and my duties varying from the collection of taxes and the execution of the processes of court to the catching of runaway negroes, and the apprehension of those who refused to pay proper respect to the laws of the Republic of Texas. I had a rich and varied experience as Sheriff, as you may suppose, and if you had the patience and my wits were sufficiently collected, I could tell you a good many things that would probably interest you. I was in the sheriff's office almost continuously from the time I came to the county in 1840 until the Republic was annexed—in fact, I remained in office a year after an-





nexation and wound up the unfinished business pertaining to the collection of taxes. Then, having married, in 1846 I settled in Washington county, where I resided engaged in farming until 1851, in which year I came again to what was then Burleson county, now Lee, and settled—in which general locality I have since made my home. I have been engaged more or less in farming all these years, and have served my fellow-citizens in whatever capacities they have seen fit to call me, having passed forty of the fifty-three years of my residence in Texas in one office or another.”

Asked if he could not give some reminiscences pertaining to the more distinguished Texans with whom he was brought in contact, Mr. Flanniken said, “I suppose you mean those whom I met about the courthouse during my official career. Yes, I knew some men of note forty to fifty years in this locality, and some who though not so well known to fame were of the highest types of manhood, and whose worth and personal services have in a measure passed into the common fund of our possessions as a people, where they will exert a lasting good for ages to come, albeit their names have in a degree already and must in time entirely disappear from our annals. When I was Sheriff, the system of traveling around the circuit was much more in vogue among the lawyers than now, and I met at Caldwell, which was the seat of justice for my bailiwick, most of the eminent legal lights in this part of the State. There was Judge Jewett, John Taylor, Barry Gillespie and R. M. Williamson among the lawyers, and John T. Mills and R. E. B. Baylor, who were at different times our presiding judges. Judge Jewett was an able lawyer and a man of considerable reputation: so also was Barry Gillespie. John Taylor was an odd-

ity. There was probably never such an other combination of brains, flesh and sloth in the world. Nobody could ever understand him, and it is doubtful if he ever understood himself. He had talent—an abundance of it—and was a fluent talker, but lacked pride and self-respect, and more especially good, hard sense. If he had been supplied by nature more generously with this article, he would have made a more shining mark on the history of his State. Judge Baylor was a good man—an excellent citizen and a good judge. I never heard but one criticism made on him as a judge, and that was that he was too lenient. He allowed his feelings as a man to influence his actions as an officer. But greater than any of those here mentioned and greater than any whom I knew in those days was Robert M. Williamson, known as ‘Three-legged Willie.’ A man learned in the law, of spotless integrity, unselfish in his devotion to the interests of his country, true to his friends, able, eloquent and earnest, he wielded a powerful influence in his day, and enjoyed an immense amount of popularity. He had but one fault, and but for that fault there is no telling what he might have accomplished. He was given to over-indulgence in strong drink.”


“I might go on,” said Mr. Flanniken, “and tell you of some of our early court proceedings, some of the unique and interesting trials, the wars of words between opposing counsel, the witty thrusts and apt replies, flights of eloquence and all of the exhibitions of genius and eccentricity that marked the doings of the men of those days. I might describe in my humble way our first temple of justice, a rude affair made of cedar lumber, whipsawed by hand, and the first jail built of logs, hewed square and fitted snugly one on the other; and the first mercantile



establishment in the county seat and the character, cost and quantity consumed of merchandise; our religions, social and political gatherings and in fact many things respecting our public and home life; but I suppose these things have, at least in a general way, been covered by others. The subject of Texas history, as seen even by an unpretentious citizen like myself, is a vast one, and a man could undertake to go over but little of it in a talk like the present."

It has been mentioned that Mr. Flanniken married in 1846. The lady was Miss Margaret E. Wilson, a daughter of Rev. Hugh V. Wilson, a pioneer Presbyterian minister who in 1837 organized the first Presbyterian Church ever established in Texas, this being the one that was organized that year at San Augustine. Mr. and Mrs. Flanniken had two children, both sons, Hugh James and Robert H., the former dying at the age of sixteen and the latter at six. The wife and mother died in 1888, at the age of sixty-five. She had been a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church from early girlhood, and was a most worthy Christian woman. In addition to her other responsibilities, she had the care of as many as ten orphans at different times in life, and was ever marked for her unceasing attentions to the sick and afflicted of her acquaintance. Mr. Flanniken joined the Presbyterian Church through her influence soon after marriage, and has been an active member since. He has been an Elder for many years. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in politics a Democrat. By the death of his wife he was robbed of his sole remaining joy, but has borne this affliction with calmness and resignation, and despite this and his age, with its attendant infirmities, is still cheerful, and a most welcome guest wherever he goes. He makes his home

with an adopted son, Hugh Wilson Rowland, whom he and his wife took in infancy and reared to manhood, and who is now married and the head of a family. Mr. Rowland is discharging faithfully and affectionately his duties toward his foster-father.



**C** B. WILSON, a farmer of Williamson county, was born in Kanawha county, West Virginia, March 13, 1839, a son of R. W. and Rebecca (Rust) Wilson. The father was a son of James Wilson, who came from county Tyrone, Ireland, to this country, and was engaged in merchandising in New York for a number of years. He subsequently went to Kentucky, and later engaged in boating on the river to New Orleans, and then took up his residence in West Virginia, where he was among the first to manufacture salt. The father of our subject was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, subsequently moved to West Virginia, and his death occurred October 19, 1890. The mother died when our subject was four years of age. They were the parents of two sons, and the youngest, James M., was a member of the Seventeenth Texas Infantry, during the late war, and was killed at the battle of Mansfield.

C. B. Wilson, the subject of this sketch, came with his father and brother to Texas in 1857, at the age of eighteen years, locating on the farm where he still resides. The farm then contained 250 acres, and was located near the old Mustang spring, which was noted as a stopping place for emigrants. The second mill in the county was located on their land, and their house was always a stopping-place for travelers, and none were ever turned away hungry. They were also the first in Will-



iamson county to build a wire fence, which was purchased from the old Gallipolis & Ohio River line, of Ohio. In September, 1861, our subject entered the Confederate army, in Company D, Fourth Texas Cavalry Regiment, Sibley's brigade, and they first went to New Mexico. At Valverde, New Mexico, they had a heavy encounter with the enemy. They then returned to Texas, took part in the battles of Galveston, Fort Bntler and Mansfield. They fought General Banks forty days, drove him back to Louisiana, and the raid terminated at Yellow Bayou. At the close of the struggle the regiment had fallen back to Texas. Mr. Wilson first served as private, and at the time of the surrender held the office of Senior Lieutenant. He arrived home May 24, 1865, since which time he has been engaged in farming. He owns 800 acres of land, 100 acres of which is cultivated, and for the past twelve years has also been engaged in sheep and cattle-raising. When Mr. Wilson first came to Williamson county, Georgetown was only a village, and the town of Taylor was not laid out until nineteen years later. Politically, he votes with the Democratic party, and socially is a member of the Masonic fraternity.



**J** W. PERRY, a farmer of Williamson county, is a son of Benjamin and Eliza (Kimbrow) Perry. The father was born in Georgia, in 1802, went to Alabama when a young man, was married in Tallapoosa county, that State, in 1829, and in 1849 came to Bastrop county, Texas. The mother died in the latter place in 1857, and the father afterward moved to our subject's home, where he died in August, 1890. He was a farmer by occupation, and a member of the Christian

Church. Mr. and Mrs. Perry had fourteen children, those who attained maturity being: Jasper, deceased; Martha Barker, deceased; Mary, wife of John Edwards, of Coryell county, Texas; Bolling, a resident of Williamson county; John, of La Grange, Fayette county, this State; J. W., our subject; Sallie, now Mrs. William Steward, of Williamson county; Benjamin, also of this county; Cornelia, deceased; Julia, wife of James Copeland, of Williamson county; Acey M., of Comal county, Texas; and Albert, a resident of this county.

J. W. Perry was born in Tallapoosa county, Alabama, January 11, 1840, and came with his parents to Texas when ten years of age. At the opening of the late war he enlisted in Company D, Twelfth Texas cavalry, under Colonel Parsons, and first served in Texas. He went thence to Arkansas, took part in the battles of Searcy's Lane, Cotton Plant and Langee river, and then participated in the following battles in Louisiana: Mansfield, Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou. At the latter place he was wounded in the right knee, and, after spending a short time in the hospital, returned home on a furlough. He afterward rejoined his company, but did not participate in any battles, and they disbanded in Falls county, Texas. After the close of hostilities, Mr. Perry followed agricultural pursuits in Bastrop county five years, and then came to Williamson county. He settled on Bear creek, where he remained for three years, and he then bought his present farm of 585 acres, on the North Gabriel, seventeen miles northwest of Georgetown, 280 acres being cultivated.

Mr. Perry was married in Williamson county, March 24, 1861, to Margaret Copeland, who was born in Overton county, Tennessee, June 1, 1844, a daughter of Jefferson





and Mary (Copeland) Copeland. The parents came to Williamson county, Texas, in 1859, locating at the head of Berry's creek, where they lived until the father's death, November 19, 1867. The mother now resides with her son Joseph, in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Perry have had six children: Ola O., a merchant of Liberty Hill; Jefferson M.; James W. and Luna L., at home; Dora, deceased; and Lonida, at home. Mr. Perry votes with the People's party; is a member of the Masonic order, the Grange and Farmers' Alliance, and also of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**P**ROF. AUGUSTUS E. HILL, of Taylor, Texas, was born in Pickens county, Alabama, in 1853, a son of Dr. S. F. Hill, who was born near Statesville, North Carolina. He afterward removed to South Carolina, later to Georgia, and next to Alabama. During his young manhood he was apprenticed to learn the tailors' trade. He afterward began the study of medicine, is a graduate of a college in Charleston, South Carolina, and has spent most of his life as a physician in Carrollton, Alabama, where he still resides, aged eighty-one years. The Doctor served for a time in the cause of the South during the late war. His wife, *nee* Miss Sarah J. Boggs, was a daughter of Rev. James and Mrs. — (Throckmorton) Boggs, natives of Virginia. Rev. Boggs was a noted educator and Presbyterian minister. He organized many female colleges throughout the different States of the Southeast. He organized the Greenwood Seminary, one of the first female schools in Louisiana, and the first in the western part of that State. His death occurred before the late war. Mrs. Boggs

was left an orphan in early life, and was raised by her aunt, Mrs. William Madison. William Madison was a brother of President James Madison. Dr. and Mrs. Hill had six children that lived to years of maturity: Mary A., widow of Joel H. Puckett; Fannie M., widow of James M. Davis, of Dallas; A. E., our subject; Samuel H., a physician of Carrollton, Alabama; Emma J., deceased, was the wife of a Mr. Bonner; C. Annie, wife of La Fayette Bonner, M. D., now of San Antonio. Mrs. Hill died in 1884. Both she and her husband were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Augustus E. Hill, the subject of this memoir, received his education in the Carrollton Academy and in what is now the State Normal of Alabama, graduating at the latter institution at the age of eighteen years. He afterward began the study of law, was admitted to the bar of Alabama in 1872, before reaching his majority, and practiced before the courts of that State for seven years. In 1879 he located near Navasota, Grimes county, Texas, having at that time just twenty-five cents, and for the following eight months he was occupied at farm labor. During that time he also taught school, receiving \$40 per month. In 1881 Mr. Hill took charge of the Bastrop Academy, at Bastrop, and in the fall of 1883 was appointed Superintendent of the city schools of Taylor, having been re-elected to that position from 1883 to 1892. On first coming to this city the school employed three teachers, and had an attendance of 105 pupils. There was also one colored school, employing one teacher, and having an attendance of forty students. The white school now occupies one of the finest school buildings in the State, employs fifteen teachers, two music teachers and one art teacher, and has an attendance of 700



pupils. The town now has two colored schools, employing three teachers, and has an average attendance of 125 pupils, making in all about 800 students under the control of Mr. Hill. He was also one of the projectors of the grand building now occupied by the schools of this city.

In 1878 Mr. Hill was united in marriage to Miss Julia Wilson, a native of Carrollton, Alabama, and a daughter of Dr. B. F. and Mrs.—(Bestwick) Wilson, early settlers of Alabama. The father was a graduate of the Transylvania College of Physicians at Carrollton, was a noted physician, filled many important State offices, having been a member of the State Legislature and Senate, and his death occurred in 1871. Dr. and Mrs. Wilson had five children: Dr. William F., of Ellis county, Texas; Ellen, now Mrs. Durham, of Jefferson, Texas; Julia, wife of our subject; B. F., engaged in railroad work; and Gertrude, wife of C. E. Gilbert, of Dallas. After the mother's death Mr. Wilson was again married, and to the last union were born four children: Patty; A. J., of Dallas; Phelix, of Alabama; and Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill have had six children, namely: Albert E., Bessie, Julia, Benjamin F., C. Hearne and Percie D. Mr. Hill affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Solomon Lodge, No. 484, and both he and his wife are members of the old-school Presbyterian Church.



**G** J. JACKSON, of Williamson county, Texas, was born in Burleson county, this State, November 15, 1840, a son of Peter and Susanna (King) Jackson. The father was born in Tennessee in 1807, came to Burleson county, Texas, in 1836, afterward located in Milam county, and his death

occurred in that county in 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson were the parents of nine children, viz: William, who died during the war; C. J., our subject; H. Cyrns, a farmer of Hood county, Texas; Rhoda, deceased, was the wife of John G. Wilson; Rebecca, wife of J. A. Huffman, a farmer of Milam county; Anna, who married W. H. Short, of Bell county; Henry A., a farmer of Milam county; James A. engaged in agricultural pursuits in Coleman county, and Olwin engaged in the cattle business in New Mexico. The father died in 1889, the mother having departed this life previous to that time.

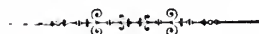
C. J. Jackson, the subject of this sketch, was reared principally in Milam county, and received but few educational advantages. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the late war, in Company G, Fifth Texas Infantry, Hood's brigade, was consigned to the army of northern Virginia, under General Lee, and took part in all the great battles of Virginia. He was once slightly wounded, and was taken prisoner at the battle of Lookout Mountain, from Longstreet's division; was carried to Camp Morton, Indianapolis, and in the following spring was taken to Fort Delaware. While in the latter place Mr. Jackson was a member of the burial department, as a great many were dying at that time from scurvy and other diseases. They dug trenches the entire length of the ground, and buried them in rough boxes, two deep, that is to say, one on top of the other, 6,000 Confederate prisoners being buried in this way! Mr. Jackson concocted a scheme to escape while in prison, but his plan failed. June 9, 1865, the prisoners were released, and our subject arrived home in the latter part of the month. During his prison life he became moon-blind and his friends were



obliged to lead him on his way home when it became dark. After his return he was first employed as manager of a farm on the Brazos river, and in 1868 he bought a small tract of land. In 1871 Mr. Jackson sold his land and came to Williamson county, and subsequently bought 640 acres of his present farm. A short time ago he bought a farm near Nolansville, Bell county, for which he paid \$3,300, and he now owns 1,876 acres, all under fence, and 600 acres cultivated. His place is well improved, has two good barns, a fine residence, eight tenement houses, etc. In 1889 Mr. Jackson embarked in the mercantile business, under the firm name of Jackson, Morris & Co., but in 1892 this business was discontinued. He has held the office of Postmaster of Corn Hill since 1891; is a stock-holder in the Southern Mercury and the Temple Forum, both leading Alliance papers, and is one-third owner of the Texas Advance, the State organ of the People's party. Our subject assisted in organizing that society in this State, has attended all the national meetings since that time, and was a delegate to the national convention at Omaha, which organized the People's party. He was nominated for the legislature, receiving 2,760 votes, and his opponent only 2,706 votes, but 126 of the former's votes were cast for the seventy-second district, and his district is the seventy-first—an error of the printer. They are now contesting the election. Mr. Jackson affiliates with the People's party.

In 1868 he was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Renshaw, a daughter of John Renshaw, who is a native of Mississippi, but who located in southern Texas in 1850. To this union have been born thirteen children, namely: Ethel, wife of William Sprent, a farmer of Williamson county; Johnie, a

merchant of Corn Hill; Ida, Gilbert, Rufus, Syrus, Susanna, Jeremiah, Terrell, Jeff Davis, Amanda, Columbus S. and James B. Weaver, at home. Socially, Mr. Jackson is a member of the I. O. O. F., and his wife is a member of the Methodist Church.



JOHN T. SPRADLY, a well-known citizen of Burleson county, Texas, was born in Georgia, June 1, 1850. He was reared on a farm and remained a member of the home circle for several years after reaching his majority until, in December, 1876, he married and settled on a rented farm. In 1879, leaving his wife in Georgia, he came to Texas, landing at Hearne, and from there coming to his present locality on foot, arriving here without means. He rented land and a team and at once went to work to put in a crop. His seed corn he borrowed. Subsequently his wife joined him, and together they began life in pioneer Texas style. Mr. Spradly's honest toil and judicious management have been rewarded with success. In 1883 he bought 100 acres of improved land, seventy-five acres of which were under cultivation, and now has it all cultivated. In 1886 he purchased a gin at Frameville, and soon afterward bought a residence and six acres of land adjoining the gin property. After running the gin five years he sold out and turned his attention to the cattle business. Recently he has disposed of his cattle interests, his whole time now being given to looking after his land and tenants. Besides the farm above referred to, he also operates land which he has leased.

Mr. Spradly is the son of A. R. and Georgia (Harris) Spradly, natives of Georgia. A. R. Spradly served as a Justice of the







*H. W. Foster*



Peace for a number of years. He moved to Florida when John T. was a lad of six years, and there spent the residue of his life and there died, his death occurring in 1888. He served all through the late war, as Sergeant of his company, the last two years being Torpedo Sergeant on St. John's river. He was with the Fifth Cavalry, General Scott's command. John T. is the oldest of seven children. Two of his brothers came to Texas, but subsequently returned, he being now the only one of the family in this State.

Mr. Spradly married Miss Amanda West, who was born in Georgia, January 2, 1860, daughter of William West, of South Carolina, who died in Georgia in 1873, his wife dying the same year. By trade Mr. West was a millwright, but later in life was engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Spradly have four children, namely: Maggie B., born May 6, 1880; Georgia L., May 26, 1882; John H., January 19, 1884; and Ruth, April 9, 1887.

He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in politics votes with the Democratic party. Mrs. Spradly is a member of the Baptist Church.



**R**OBERT U. PORTER.—The origin of families, like the origin of races and even of States, is usually obscure.

Even with the aid of print the genealogical connection of but few men has been preserved in anything like authentic form. The genesis of most families begins with some prominent character, usually a civil or military leader, beyond whom all is dim and shadowy.

The Porter family in America is a large one, and is doubtless of English origin.

The immediate antecedents of Robert U. Porter of this article have been traced back only to Virginia. It is known that his paternal grandfather, William Porter, was a resident of Virginia most of his life, if indeed he was not a native of that State. He was a young man, or at least not past middle life, when the American colonies rebelled against the mother country. Like many other patriotic sons of those days, he early pledged his life, his fortune and his sacred honor for the maintenance of individual liberty. He entered the Continental army from Virginia and remained in it till the close of the struggle, rising to the position of Colonel and acquitting himself presumably with credit. Then, when the great war was over and the colonists began to settle down to the enjoyment of their dearly-won liberties, he moved, in the days of Daniel Boone, to the frontier regions of Kentucky, where he took up his residence in one of the numerous settlements started about that time. There he passed the remainder of his life, helping to subdue the savages of the forest and lay deep the foundation of that great commonwealth. Many of his descendants still live in that State, where they have risen to distinction both in its civil and military history. He had seven sons: Elisha, Oliver, William, Virgil, Benjamin, John W. and Beverly,—the last two of whom became early settlers of Texas and here helped to solve the same problems with which the father had been concerned in the older States. Beverly came to Texas in 1827 and cast his lot with one of the coast colonies, where he was located when the battle of Velasco occurred, June 25, 1832. In this battle he took part, being one of the 112 men who volunteered to take the Mexican fort at that place. He never lived to take



part in the greater conflict which came off a few years later, and of which this fight was in the nature of a prelude to a play. He died in 1833, of cholera.

John W. Porter, the other member of this pioneer family and the father of the subject of this notice, came to Texas six years later than his brother Beverly. He was then married and the head of a family. He left Nashville, Tennessee, April 3, 1833, with a flat-boat loaded with pork and staves. Upon this boat he and his family started down the Cumberland river for New Orleans, which city they reached by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. At New Orleans he disposed of his "barter" to good advantage, and taking a sail-boat turned his face toward Texas. Reaching Velasco he fitted up a wagon train, and striking northward journeyed as far as what is now Burleson county, in the western portion of which he found a beautiful stretch of country, where he pitched his tent and turned loose his stock. This strip of country, since called Porter's prairie, in honor of this pioneer, has always been one of the best settled portions of the county and noted for the superiority of its citizenship. John W. Porter resided where he first cast his lot in the then unsettled regions of Central Texas until his death in 1846,—twelve years later.

He was for a number of years actively and conspicuously connected with the history of this locality. His principal business pursuits were farming and stock-raising, mainly the latter, the open country affording abundant range. He filled the offices of Justice of the Peace, County Clerk, and Chief Justice, the functions of which offices he discharged always with a view to the public good, and died in the enjoyment of the esteem and respect of those among whom he had lived.

The wife of John W. Porter, one of those courageous, self-sacrificing women whose devotion to their husbands and families, and whose skill in domestic affairs as much as anything else rendered the problem of the settlement of this country possible, was a native of Tennessee, where she was trained to the habits of industry and usefulness and brought up in the practice of the ways of pioneer life. Her maiden name was Susan Eaton, and she was a daughter of the Rev. Robert Eaton, a Baptist minister well known in southern Kentucky and central and western Tennessee from half to three quarters of a century ago. This family of Eatons has furnished a number of distinguished citizens to Tennessee and Kentucky, among them being teachers, preachers and politicians. The present Congressman of that name from Tennessee is a member of the family, and the Rev. T. T. Eaton, of Louisville, Kentucky, the able Baptist divine, another member. Mrs. Porter died in Burleson county in 1856, about the age of fifty-five. Eight sons were born to her and her husband, most of whom were born and reared in Texas. Jerome B., the eldest, died in Burleson county, about 1856; Robert U. is the subject of this notice; Newell died in 1862, in Burleson county; Milton was a minister of the Methodist Church for a number of years, and died in Anderson county, Texas; John lives in Bell county; Beverly A. is a citizen of Burleson county, a sketch of his life appearing in this work; William died in infancy; and Thomas lives in Bell county.

Robert U. Porter, the eldest of the family now living, and the one whose name forms the caption of this article, was born in Butler county, Kentucky, December 12, 1825. He was in his eighth year when his parents came to Texas. His boyhood and youth were





passed in this county. He received but little education, there being no schools of any consequence in Texas in those days. His time was taken up mainly with his duties on the farm and in looking after the stock on the range. The early death of his father, in 1846, threw on his shoulders, as one of the older member of the family, a large share of the responsibility in looking after the estate and in caring for his younger brothers,—a responsibility which he cheerfully assumed discharged with credit to himself. Most of his younger brothers were sent to east Texas, where they had the benefit of the best school advantages then procurable in the State. Mr. Porter continued in charge of his father's estate for ten years after the latter's death, by which time through his judicious management it had grown to be the largest estate in the county. A division was then had among the heirs, and with the portion which fell to him, consisting chiefly of cattle, he settled to himself in 1856, having married that year, and began to give his attention actively to his own interests. Like many other citizens of this State Mr. Porter suffered severely in finances during the late war, but he has recuperated in a great measure, and is now one of Burleson county's largest land-holders and most substantial farmers, owning 1,300 acres, 500 acres of which is in cultivation, well stocked and well improved. Farming and stock-raising have formed the objects of chief concern with him through life, and this to the exclusion of office-seeking and office-holding, which are regarded sometimes as natural diversion by reputable and well-to-do members of his calling. He served two years in the Confederate army during the late war, having enlisted in Company A, Moran's battalion, which was organized for coast defense. He was also at an earlier

date in the ranging service and helped protect the frontier of Texas from the Indians. Mr. Porter actively interests himself in all matters relating to the farming community, believing that organization is essential to husbandry and that in the multitude of counsel there is not only wisdom but strength, a thing most necessary to secure to the farming class their just rights and privileges. He is a member of the Burleson County Co-operative Association and a director in the Grange store at Caldwell. In politics he officiates with the Democrats, and has voted the straight Democratic ticket all his life.

In 1856 Mr. Porter married Miss Sallie Choate, a daughter of John J. Choate and a cousin of Rufus Choate, the great Massachusetts lawyer. The issue of this marriage was seven children: James E., now a teacher in the public schools of Williamson county, this State; Curran R., a bookkeeper at Milano; Rufus C., a lawyer of Dallas; Fannie, who died at the age of fifteen, while in school; Cornelia, still under the parental roof; Newell D.; and Mary. The wife and mother died in 1867, and in 1871 Mr. Porter married Miss Aromenta Robinson, of Burleson county. Nine children have been born to this union: Pearl A., Roy, William, Clarence, Lorena, Eleanor, Florence, Ada May, and Robert King. The religious connection of the family is with the Methodist Church, of which Mr. Porter has been Steward for more than forty years. Under the influences of this church as well as in all correct ways of living, he has brought up his large family of children. He has also made reasonable preparation for all their material wants, and has amassed a considerable estate, which will go toward establishing them in the world. But it has been his belief and his teaching that their happiness, success and



usefulness in life will not so much depend on what they have as what they are, and, in accordance with this view, he has sought to leave them a legacy of an honorable name, to give them good educational advantages, to instill in them good principles and bring them up with good habits as better helps in the race of life than great wealth.



**C**ALVIN BELL, a farmer of Williamson county, was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, July 2, 1825, a son of Sterling and Catherine (Maxan) Bell, the former a native of Connecticut, and the latter of Rhode Island, and of English and Irish descent. The parents reared a family of eight children, viz.: Nancy, Nathan, Lyman, Angeline, Edith, Calvin, Jasper and Asa. The children are all now deceased, excepting one son and two daughters, the latter residing in Pennsylvania. The parents died before the late war.

Calvin Bell, the subject of this sketch, and of the third generation of the family in America, remained under the parental roof until reaching years of maturity. He went thence to Iowa (then a Territory), spent a short time in St. Louis, worked his way South to Mississippi, and in 1845 arrived in Texas, where he first found employment as a farm hand. In 1848 Mr. Bell joined a ranging company, Bell's regiment, and served on the frontier of Texas. In 1852 he purchased 750 acres of his present farm, which he began improving in 1855, and during that time also followed freighting. In 1862 our subject enlisted in a twelve months' company, was attached to Morgan's battalion, afterward joined Baylor's regiment of cavalry, and served in Louisiana and Arkansas. He

took part in many skirmishes, was in Banks' raid on Red river, served until the close of the struggle, and at the time of the surrender the regiment had fallen back to Texas. He was honorably discharged at Richmond, this State, since which time he has resided on his farm in Williamson county. Mr. Bell rents his place, of which has 120 acres under a fine state of cultivation.

In the summer of 1865 he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Dalton, a native of Arkansas, and a daughter of Meade Dalton, who formerly resided in Tennessee, coming to Texas in 1857, and spending the remainder of his life in farming in Williamson county. Mr. and Mrs. Bell had one child, Jefferson Davis, who is now engaged in business in Bartlett, this State. The wife and mother died in November, 1886, at about the age of fifty-four years. Mr. Bell takes an active part in public affairs, is an independent Democrat in his political views, and religiously is a member of the Baptist Church.



**P**AUL OTTO ELZNER, a prominent merchant of Bastrop, was born in Prussia, Germany, March 9, 1847, a son of August and Pauline (Baker) Elzner, natives of Saxony, that country. The parents removed to Prussia, but a short time afterward, in 1858, came to America, locating in Bastrop, Texas. The father was first employed as head sawyer in a steam saw-mill, the following seven years was engaged in freighting and farming, and then conducted a bakery and fancy grocery until his death, which occurred in 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Elzner were the parents of five children, only three of whom lived to maturity,—Frederick A. B., of this city; Paul O., our subject; and



Albert A., a merchant of Bastrop. The mother died in 1889. The parents were members of the Lutheran Church.

P. O. Elzner came to America with his father, and received his education in the Bastrop schools. He began work for himself at the age of twenty-two years, in the restaurant business, which he followed for a number of years. In 1867, with \$600 in money, he engaged in a small way in the general mercantile business, in a two-story frame building, using the upper story as his residence. Two years later he purchased, for \$5,000, the lot on which his present commodious building is now located, paying \$300 down. The building is 25 x 90 feet, two stories high, and he continued business there until March, 1892. In the meantime Mr. Elzner had purchased the adjoining building, which he immediately began tearing down, and August 1, 1892, he moved his stock of goods to the new building, which has 32,000 square feet of flooring, is two stories high, and one of the most commodious structures in the State. He now has a trade amounting to \$250,000 annually, and enjoys sixteen clerks, two bookkeepers, and two ladies in the millinery department. Mr. Elzner carries a full line of dry goods, groceries, clothing, boots, shoes, notions, hardware, wagons, farm machinery, furniture, bran, hay, corn and liquors. In 1893 he purchased 5,000 bales of cotton, is also largely engaged in the real-estate business, handling both town and city property, and buys and sells cattle, horses and mules. He is a director and stockholder in the National Bank of Bastrop, and is the largest stockholder of the Bridge Company. The bridge was erected in 1891, at a cost of \$45,000, spans the Colorado river at this point, and is one of the finest foot and wagon bridges in the United States.

In 1875 Mr. Elzner was united in marriage to Miss Mary Rabensburg, a native of Bastrop, and a daughter of Jacob and Mary Rabensburg, natives of Germany. The parents came to Texas about 1860, and the father is now engaged in farming in this country. Mr. and Mrs. Rabensburg have eight children, viz.: George, of this county; Mary, wife our subject; Henry, deceased; Emma, wife of Julius Bodoie, of Fort Worth; Bertha, widow of James Gossman; Helen, deceased; Julia; and Otto. Mr. and Mrs. Elzner are the parents of five children,—August J., Bruno A., Prince O., Bernhardt (deceased) and Julia (deceased). Our subject and wife are members of the German Lutheran Church, but worship at the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Socially, Mr. Elzner is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Gamble Lodge, No. 244; of the K. of P., Bastrop Lodge, No. 101; and is a charter member of the L. of H. He takes no active part in political matters, although he served as City Treasurer from 1878 to 1879, and has held the office of Alderman since 1880.



JOHN LLOYD, an insurance and real-estate agent of Taylor, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1836, a son of Isaac Lloyd, who was a native of Virginia, but who removed to Pennsylvania in an early day. The latter, a shoe manufacturer by profession, located in Robertson county, Texas, in 1852, where he engaged in the boot and shoe business and other vocations until the opening of the late war, when he began merchandising. In 1866 he was elected County Judge of Robertson county, and previous to that time had served as Justice of the Peace. His death occurred in 1868. The wife of Mr.





Lloyd, *nee* Ann J. Walker, was a native of Ireland. Her family subsequently located in South Carolina, but afterward moved to Pennsylvania, where Ann J. was reared and married. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd had seven children: John, our subject; Mary A., II. B., of Robertson county; Isaac and R. J., also of that county, and two daughters who died about 1844. The mother now resides with one of her sons on the old homestead, aged seventy-eight years.

John Lloyd attended the Chester Academy at Chester, Pennsylvania, and completed his education in the high school of Wheelock, Texas. He was then employed as clerk by C. C. Hearne, of that place, and later by Lewis & Spence, also of Wheelock. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the late war, entering Company E, Second Texas Regiment, under Colonel John C. Moore, and served on the east side of the Mississippi river until the fall of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863. During that time he participated in the battles of Corinth, Shiloh, etc.; in the spring of 1863 was sent to Vicksburg and placed behind the breastworks, was captured July 4, 1863, paroled eight days later, and exchanged in the fall of the same year. Previous to his exchange, Mr. Lloyd had made his way home, where he remained until after that event took place, and his company then rendezvoused at Houston, Texas. They then went South on the Brazos river, under command of Colonel Smith, but during their service in this State never took part in any battles. The company disbanded at Galveston. Mr. Lloyd entered the army as a private, but at the battle of Corinth, Mississippi, where the colonel of the regiment was killed and the color-bearer shot down, he brought out with his regiment the flag, which was pierced by bullets several times while in his hands. For this and other

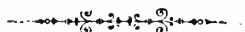
meritorious services he was promoted to Lieutenant after the second battle of Corinth. After coming to the west side of the Mississippi river, and upon the reorganization of his company, Mr. Lloyd was appointed First Lieutenant, and at the close of the war was serving as Captain.

After the close of hostilities he returned to his father's home in Wheelock, where he engaged in the mercantile business about three years. At that time his entire accumulations for three years was swept away by fire, caused by lightning. In the fall of 1868 Mr. Lloyd resumed his former occupation at Bryan, Brazos county; in 1869 located in Calvert, Robertson county; in 1870 went to Bremond; in 1871 began farming in Falls county, and in 1873 resumed mercantile pursuits in Limestone. In 1878 he again lost the accumulations of several years by fire. For the following two years he was employed as clerk in Kosse, Limestone county, by N. Markham. In 1880 Mr. Lloyd was elected Tax Assessor of that county, serving in that position two years, and for the following two and a half years was engaged in the mercantile business, in Taylor, Texas. January 1, 1886, he sold his mercantile interest, and since that time has been engaged in the real-estate and insurance business. From 1886 to 1891 he filled the office of City Assessor and Collector of Taylor, and also served as School Trustee three years.

Mr. Lloyd was married May 15, 1860, to Miss Esther R. Price, a native of Giles county, Tennessee, and a daughter of John H. and Adaline R. Price. The parents came in 1856 from Giles county to Falls county, where they were among the pioneer settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd have four children: Addie, wife of R. C. Robertson, of Limestone county; John I. and Charles K., of this city;



and Eva. Our subject and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. The former also affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Solomon Lodge, No. 434, with K. of H., No. 1,451, with the L. of H., all of this city; with Colorado Commandery, No. 8, of Austin, and with the R. A. M., of Taylor.



**JOHN C. CRUNK.**—Milam county has many men whose services in behalf of the public entitle them to the grateful remembrance of her people, and one of these is the subject of this notice. Mr. Crunk has been a resident of the county for twenty-five years, a considerable portion of which time has been spent in the service of his fellow-citizens, in one official capacity and another; and, whether in office or out, he has always labored with a willing hand and an earnest heart for the people of his adopted county, doing a vast amount of work of a public kind for which there was no statutory salary, and much also for which the stipulated pay was no adequate compensation. While the public profits from the labors of such men, their names too frequently fade from memory and are no more. Possibly this brief biographical notice will perpetuate a name well worthy of perpetuation in this connection.

Mr. Crunk is a native Texan, having been born in what is now Burleson county, then part of Milam Land district, February 9, 1842. His parents were Nicholas S. and Emaline (Rice) Crunk, the father being a native of Tennessee and the mother a native of Alabama. The father came to Texas in 1833. He served in the war by which Texas won its independence, being present at and taking part in the battle of San Jacinto. He

married and settled in what was afterward Burleson county, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying March 9, 1852. The mother, Emaline Rice, was a daughter of Laban Rice, who moved to Texas about 1835 and died here at a later date. After the death of her husband she married E. Ridgeway. She died in 1865. Six children were born to her and her first husband, five of whom became grown, these in the order of their ages being: John C., the subject of this notice; Levine, now the wife of R. G. Broadus, of Caldwell, Burleson county; Ophelia, the wife of B. G. Evans, of Alvin, Texas; Richard who died in Milam county in 1868, leaving a widow and one child; and Virginia, who was married to James Schaffer, of Milam county, and died in 1875.

John C. Crunk was reared in Burleson county, where he received a meager education. In 1861 he entered the Confederate army, enlisting for twelve months in Company E, McCulloch's regiment of mounted rifles, with whom he served on the Texas frontier until the expiration of his term of enlistment, when he entered Company A, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, with which command he served in Arkansas and Louisiana until the close of the war. He was wounded in the engagement of Milliken's Bend and was for a time disabled from service, but remained in the field, and received his discharge at Hempstead, this State, in May, 1865. At the close of the war he went to Bell county and engaged for two years in the stock business, after which he settled at Davilla, Milam county, where for three years he filled the offices of Constable and Deputy Sheriff. He was then elected Justice of the Peace and *ex officio* County Commissioner, which office he held for four years, when the offices were separated, and he continued to



hold the justice's office for thirteen years longer. For eight years during this time Mr. Crunk was also Postmaster at Davilla. In the meantime he engaged in farming and merchandising, still owning a farm of 200 acres, 125 acres of which is in cultivation, and considerable property in the town of Davilla, most of which represents his own labor.

On June 8, 1865, Mr. Crunk married Miss Sallie A. Johnston, a daughter of Judge Thomas Johnston, of Burleson county. Mrs. Crunk is a native of Mississippi, born in Woodville, Wilkerson county. Mr. and Mrs. Crunk have had no children born to them, but have raised an adopted son, W. B. Elliott, whom they have educated and provided well for. Both are members of the Methodist Church, and Mr. Crunk belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a Democrat in politics and a staunch supporter of the principles of his party.



**D**R. W. R. SIMCOCK, dentist, of Austin, Texas, was born in Grayson county, Virginia, February 9, 1838. He was a son of Joel and Sallie (Perry) Simcock, natives of Virginia and North Carolina respectively. The father was a farmer and millwright, and his birth occurred March 11, 1810. His wife was born in 1815, and departed this life in 1890. Both of these parents were consistent members of the Baptist Church, their lives and influence as Christians having a salutary influence in the neighborhood. The maternal grandparents were Perry and Polly (Hall) Perry.

Our subject is the second in a family of fourteen children. His first business was his

peaceful agricultural life on the farm and attendance on the mill. He enlisted in 1862 in Company C, Sixty-third Virginia Infantry, the Colonel being Rev. McMahon, a Presbyterian minister. His first engagement with the enemy was at Red Sulphur, his command being under General Lee, in the North Virginia army. They wintered in Richmond during 1862 and 1863, and then went to Washington Salt Works, where they just arrived in time to save the works from the flames. Here the Doctor took sick, went to the hospital, where he remained four months with camp fever, which he had contracted by exposure. Upon recovery he returned to his command at the salt works. His sickness had caused the loss of his voice, which rendered him unfit for service in the powder and bullet department of the army, and he was given a position as buyer of supplies for the army. This position he filled for one year, when he was transferred and held the same position in General Johnston's army. Later he was sent to the medical department of the same army and had an extensive experience in surgery, having amputated many limbs, and also attended to the dentistry of the soldiers. He commenced the study of dentistry with Dr. H. M. Compton, in the army, and he continued in this department until the close of the war. This gave him an unusually good practice, and an experience which has been of the greatest value, and perhaps accounts in a measure for the wonderful skill in his chosen profession. In many fierce engagements he took his part in the ranks and showed his devotion and bravery as a soldier.

After the war closed, our subject returned to the farm in Virginia, engaging there for a time in farming, later in iron-making; but in 1870, seeing an opening farther west, he







*Wm. L. Fleming*



sold out his interests and went prospecting through Illinois and Indiana, and on as far as Hamilton, Caldwell county, Missouri, and there practiced his profession for some time; but in 1880 he left Hamilton and for ten years resided at San Marcos, Texas, and then came to Austin, where he has since given his time and best energies to dentistry, succeeding well. He is a skilled workman and gives universal satisfaction.

Dr. Simcock was first married September 6, 1860, to Miss Candace Moore, daughter of Daniel and Martha Moore, of Grayson county, Virginia. Her death occurred in December, 1861, at the early age of twenty-one years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. October 24, 1865, Dr. Simcock married Miss E. M. Brewer, daughter of William and Mary Brewer, of Grayson county, Virginia, and six children have been born of this marriage, as follows: Mary M., the wife of Professor M. C. McGee, residing in San Marcos, Texas, and DeWitt Clinton is their only child; Sallie E., who has recently graduated in the School of Music at Austin, and is prepared for musical teaching; Frederick M. is studying dentistry with his father; Hattie C., Bertha M. and Tinsley are at home.

Dr. Simcock is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is a member of the Masonic order in blue lodge, chapter and commandery. Our subject is of good old stock, his paternal grandfather Aaron Simcock, a native of New Jersey, being of a family well known in that State; he came to Virginia with his father, locating in Grayson county. The father, John, had come from England to New Jersey before the Revolutionary war, in which he took part as a private. The name of the grandmother of our subject was Beulah (Bryant) Simcock, and her parents had also come early to the

State, and her father sent a substitute during the first year of the Revolution, but later went himself and gave up his life for his adopted country, during the last year of the war.



**D**R. WILLIAM P. FLEMING, one of the leading physicians of Georgetown, was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, September 7, 1838. The Flemings of this country are descended from William Fleming, a Scotchman, who was the great great-grandfather of our subject. Before William Penn arrived in this country there were a few settlements on the eastern shore of the Chesapeake bay, where tobacco was raised. William Fleming had an uncle who sailed a ship from Greenock, Scotland, to the American shore for that product and wheat. On one of his arrivals at Greenock, William Fleming went down to the port to see him, and was persuaded by his uncle to make a voyage to America with him, to help work the ship, to see the new country, etc. They arrived in Chesapeake in harvest time, and his uncle persuaded him to go ashore and help the farmers, as he told him it would perhaps be a month before he sailed on his return trip. William began work with a farmer, and while thus engaged the ship sailed without him, and he found his uncle had bound him as a servant for four years. He served the farmer faithfully, and then started for the settlements at the mouth of Christiana creek and up the Delaware, now known as Chester county, Pennsylvania. William lived with an Englishman, named Moore, at Naaman's creek, and afterward married one of his daughters. He witnessed the landing of William Penn at Chester, in 1682, and after many years, when the settle-



ments were pushed up the valley from the Schuylkill and up the Brandywine from Wilmington, he and his young descendants purchased the land for several miles along the valley, now known as Coatesville, Pennsylvania. William Penn, the Governor, in order to encourage young men to emigrate to America, proclaimed that to every person who had passed four years in America he would grant fifty acres of land, and William Fleming secured his fifty acres. The deed was entitled "Fleming's Reward." At his death William Fleming left four sons and one daughter,—James, Henry, William, Peter, and the daughter, who cannot now be named. James Fleming was the great-grandfather of our subject, and his son, John, the grandfather of our subject, was one of the members who represented Chester county, Pennsylvania, in the Constitutional Convention of 1776. He resided on a farm just west of Coatesville, which is situated on the Brandywine, a few miles above the battle ground. On this farm he built a large, elegant, stone house, placing his initials in a large stone on the corner, as was frequently done in those days. This is the old mansion, still standing in a good state of preservation, where our subject, his father and every member of the family to which the latter belonged were born. John Fleming was engaged in wagon making when the Revolutionary struggle commenced. The Fleming families of this country, especially those who have but the one letter "m" in their name, are presumed to be descendants of this William Fleming.

The parents of the subject of this sketch, George and Margarita (Parke) Fleming, were born, reared and married in Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer and manufacturer by occupation, and was also a prominent politician in his day. He held many offices of

profit and trust, and was extensively known over the State as a responsible and in every way a worthy man, having been in office continually for many years. Mr. Fleming was a Ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church, and he died in 1871, at the age of seventy-six years. He was of Scotch extraction, was in every way a most worthy man, and his death removed an honored and well-known landmark. His wife died in 1860, aged fifty-six years, having been a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church. She was a daughter of Colonel James and Mary Parke. The father was a Colonel in the war of 1812, and his death occurred in 1864, at which time he had attained the age of ninety-six years, his wife having also died at that age, in 1868. They were worthy and highly respected people, and pioneer settlers of this country.

Dr. William P. Fleming, the eldest of four sons and two daughters, of whom three sons and one daughter are now living, received a literary course at the State Normal and the Newton University of Maryland, graduating at the latter institution in 1859. In the same year he began reading medicine under his brother, Dr. John P. Fleming, of Baltimore, attended the Medical Department of the University of Maryland, and spent one year and graduated at the University of Iowa in 1871. In 1861 he began the practice of his profession at Baltimore, Maryland, and August 15, of that year, entered the army, as Hospital Steward of the United States army at Baltimore, serving six years in that capacity. In 1867, during the epidemic of yellow fever at Galveston, Mr. Fleming came to Texas and served as physician in the hospitals of that city, and for a time was also at Brenham, Texas. In 1871 he located in Georgetown, where he is now the second oldest





physician in residence in the county, Dr. Walker being the oldest. He has been United States Medical Examiner for the State, a member of the Board of Examiners for the Sixteenth Judicial District of Texas, is Examiner for the following insurance companies: The New York Mutual, for the Providence of New York, the Bankers' of St. Paul, the Washington of New York, the Manhattan of New York, and the Mutual Benefit of Massachusetts. Dr. Fleming also writes occasionally for the medical journals of Texas and the Medical Register of Philadelphia. He is Secretary of the Board of Health of this city.

In 1873 the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Mary M. Henderson, a daughter of William H. Henderson, of Georgetown. They had one child, which died in 1885, aged three years. Dr. and Mrs. Fleming are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which the former is an Elder. Socially, he is a Royal Arch Mason, and has passed through all the chairs and has been a member of the Grand Lodge of the State in the I. O. O. F. He is a member and attends the sessions of the State Medical Association, also the Austin District Medical Association. Dr. Fleming is well read in his profession, widely known and highly appreciated as a citizen, and is numbered among the most worthy enterprising and intelligent men of Williamson county.



**J** R. BRIZENDINE, of Williamson county, is a son of W. L. and Catherine M. (Smith) Brizendine. The father was a native of Virginia, but his people located in Todd county, Kentucky, when he was quite young. He was left an orphan at an early age, and was raised as a

bound boy. When a young man he went to Woodford county, Kentucky, was there married in 1842; several years later went to Jessamine county, same State, but subsequently returned to Todd county. In 1855 Mr. Brizendine came to Texas, spending the first five years at Fort Worth, after which he located in Austin, and in January, 1865, settled where our subject now lives. He died there in August, 1889. He was a cabinet-maker by trade, but after coming to this State followed the carpenter's trade. He built the first house in Denton, Denton county, and while in Austin also engaged as a cabinet-maker under the firm name of Brizendine & Tumey. After locating in Williamson he was engaged in milling, ginning and merchandising. Mr. Brizendine took but little interest in politics, voting with the Democratic party, was a Council Mason, and a member of the Christian Church. The mother of our subject was born and raised in Versailles, Kentucky, a daughter of H. Anna Smith, who lived to a great age. The former still lives in Williamson county. Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Brizendine had two children—J. R. and Lawson. The latter was accidentally killed by a horse falling on him at the age of twelve years.

J. R. Brizendine, the subject of this sketch, was born in Versailles, Woodford county, Kentucky, December 29, 1843. In November, 1862, he enlisted for service in the late war, entering Company C, Fourth Texas Cavalry, Green's brigade, and served in the Trans-Mississippi Department. He was on detached duty, in hospital, commissary and quartermaster work. In December, 1864, he was detailed to work in the Government foundry at Austin, where he remained until the close of the struggle. Mr. Brizendine is now engaged in the stock



business, milling and merchandising, and has also served as Postmaster of Gabriel Mills since the establishment of that office. In his political relations he affiliates with the Democratic party.

Mr. Brizendine was married in Williamson county, November 2, 1865, to Texanna McKenzie, a native of Louisiana, who came to this county from Red River county, Texas, at the age of twelve years. She is a relative of Rev. McKenzie, who was at the head of an educational institution in Red River county. Our subject and wife have had twelve children, ten now living—William Ella and John Etta, twins, the former the wife of A. J. Root, of Temple, Texas, and the latter the wife of J. P. Baker, of Gabriel Mills; A. C., also of that city; and Lawson M., Woodford L., Harod, Mand, Edward, Robbie and Edith, at home.



**T**M. HOUGHTON, a prominent farmer of Williamson county, is a son of W. M. S. and Mary F. (Doney) Houghton, of Scotch-Irish descent. The paternal family came to this country before the Revolutionary war, in which the great-grandfather of our subject was a soldier. He is said to have been wounded in the side by a band of Tories, but succeeded in escaping, having hid in a thicket and staunched the wound with a silk handkerchief. He lived many years afterward. The grandfather, Lucius L., was a merchant of Sumter county, Georgia, for many years and died in Liverpool, England, while there to buy goods. W. M. S. Houghton, the father of our subject, was born in Sumter county, Georgia, February 28, 1800; was reared to manhood there; was engaged in the mercantile business in

different towns in Georgia for twenty-five years; in 1846 located on a farm in Titus county, Texas, and in 1863 came to Florence, Williamson county, where he died in 1868. He was a member of the Legislature in both Georgia and Texas, and, although not a public speaker, was a good writer of articles on State questions. Hr. Houghton was not a member of any church. He was first married to a Miss Mayo, and they had two children, both now deceased. In 1840, in Dooly county, Georgia, he married Mary F. Doney. They were the parents of seven children, viz.: Theodore M., the subject of this sketch; Ann L., wife of James F. Robinson, of Williamson county; Laura A., wife of Jones Webb, of Runnels county, Texas; Pamela H., now Mrs. J. J. Robinson, and a resident of Georgetown; Dora D., wife of William Smith, of Jones county, this State; John H., of Austin; and Fannie O., wife of William Pfaeffle, of Fort Worth, Texas. The wife and mother died in 1860, and the father afterward married Mary Standifer. They had two children.

T. M. Houghton, our subject, was born in Sumter county, Georgia, March 11, 1844. In 1862 he left school in Titus county to enlist in the late war, entering Company D., Eleventh Texas Infantry, served three years in the Trans-Mississippi Department, and took part in the battles of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, and Jenkins' Ferry. After the close of hostilities he returned to his father's home in Williamson county, Texas, and shortly afterward located in the same neighborhood on his present farm, consisting of 204 acres, with fifty acres under cultivation. He is independent in his political views, but votes principally with the Democratic party.

Mr. Houghton was married in this county, June 23, 1867, to Anna E. Rutledge, a



native of Washington county, Texas, who came to Williamson county when eight years of age. She is a daughter of Captain W. P. Rutledge, an old Texas pioneer, who commanded a company in the Mexican war. He resided in Williamson county from 1858 to his death, which occurred April 26, 1890. Mr. Rutledge was a well-read and intelligent gentleman, and was respected by all who knew him; and was a prominent fruit-grower. Mr. and Mrs. Houghton have had eight children, namely: William M., a teacher in Williamson county; Annie D., wife of J. W. Johnson, Hembrie, Crockett county, Texas; Louis E., at home; Theodore F., a teacher in this county; and Irene, Edna, Jesse T. and Freddie, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Houghton are both members of the Christian Church.



**W**ILLIAM F. ROBERTSON, attorney-at-law, of Taylor, Texas, was born in Roane county, Tennessee, July 13, 1859, a son of Dr. J. R. and Mary A. (Hunt) Robertson. William F. received his early education in the common schools of his native county, and at the age of eighteen years entered Sweet Water College, at Sweet Water, Tennessee, under the supervision of Professor J. L. Bachman, and graduated at that institution in 1881. He was engaged as a teacher in the primary department of that college two years, and in 1883 came to Texas. For the following two years Mr. Robertson taught school in Leander, this county, and in 1885 entered the Law Department of the University of Texas, where he graduated in 1886. August 1, of that year, he located for the practice of his profession in Taylor. Mr. Robertson is one of the few who fully recog-

nize the truth so often urged, that the reading and thoughts of a lawyer should be the most extended, as systematic reading gives a more comprehensive grasp to the mind, variety and richness to thought, and a clearer preception to the motives of men. His library is well stocked with works on different subjects, and also contains a fine collection of books of his profession.

Mr. Robertson was married June 26, 1889, to Miss Annie Dowling, a native of Texas, and a daughter of Captain R. W. and Annie (Odum) Dowling.

The father of Mrs. Robertson was a distinguished soldier in the Confederate army, and while in command of the "Davis Guards," a company composed of forty-two Irishmen stationed at Sabine Pass, a Confederate post on the Gulf of Mexico, the company was attacked on September 8, 1863, by a United States fleet consisting of from 10,000 to 15,000 men, who were preparing to make a landing at Sabine Pass and from there make a raid throughout Texas. Dowling and his men opened fire with two cannon and some small arms, killing a large number of men, sinking one of the enemies' boats, disabling two others, driving away those remaining and taking a large number of prisoners. This defeat of the United States forces forever saved Texas from invasion by that army.

Mr. Jefferson Davis in his book on the the rise and fall of the Confederacy says, there is no parallel in ancient or modern warfare to the victory of Dowling and his men at Sabine Pass, considering the great odds against which they had to contend. Sabine Pass will stand perhaps for all time to come the greatest military victory on the American soil, if not in the world, and will stamp with undying fame the name of all who were members of the Davis Guards. The men





who composed the company were all born in Ireland, that land that has given to liberty's cause so many brave and noble men, whether at home or on foreign soil. Of the forty-three only three are now living, two in Texas and one in Illinois. Captain Dowling died when Mrs. Robertson was but a child. Captain and Mrs. Dowling had two children, R. S., of New Orleans, and Annie, wife of our subject. Mrs. Dowling after the death of Captain D., married W. R. Daniel, a native of Mississippi. By her last marriage she had four children: Walter, Edward, Rosa and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel reside in Austin, Texas.

On March 6, 1889, the anniversary of the independence of the republic of Texas the citizens of Houston, the home of Captain Dowling from boyhood to the day of his death, through Judge W. P. Hamblin their representative in the Twentieth State Legislature of Texas, then in session in the capitol at Austin, in one of the most eloquent speeches ever made in the capital, presented to Mrs. Robertson a handsome gold medal with diamond setting, as a token of their esteem for her father and as an expression of their high appreciation of the distinguished services he rendered the "Lost Cause," and especially the people of Texas in saving their fair State from invasion by the Federal army September 8, 1863. The medal has on one side the inscription, "Presented to Annie Dowling the daughter of Our Hero," and on the other side "From citizens of Houston." The presentation took place in the hall of the house of Representatives at an hour set by the house for the purpose and in the presence of both branches of the Legislature, the heads of the different departments, and a large concourse of citizens and friends, ex-Governor Frank R. Lubbock an old-time

friend of Captain Dowling, accepted the medal for Mrs. Robertson in a neat, appropriate speech.

Mrs. Robertson is a lady of culture and refinement, a lover of books, music and home.

Mr. Robertson is a member of the Mystic Circle, takes an active interest in political matters, and is a man of liberal views.



**H** E. BAINE, a physician of Lee county, is a son of Moses and Cecelia T. (Engoldsby) Baine. The father was born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1800, but when a young man emigrated to America, landing at Baltimore, Maryland, where he remained several years. While there he was married, and in 1830 or 1831 they came to Texas, locating at San Felipe, at the mouth of the Brazos river. With his family he afterward moved to Washington county, where the father died in 1864, and the mother in 1861. After locating in this State the father followed farming and stock-raising, took part in the early conflicts that threw off the Mexican yoke, and occupied a high place in the esteem of the citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Baine were the parents of ten children, viz.: Sarah and George, deceased; Alice, wife of H. Levinson, of Weatherford, Texas; Mary, wife of M. P. Kerr, of Laredo, this State; Eliza, now Mrs. O. H. Crazier, of Brenham; William, who served as a private in Nelson's regiment during the late war, and was killed at the battle of New Hope Church; Parthenia, wife of C. H. Carlisle, of Brenham, Texas; Cecelia, wife of T. A. Low, also of that city; Moses, deceased; and H. E., our subject.

Harry E. Baine was born in Washington county, Texas, June 6, 1854, and attended the common schools and the Baylor Univer-



sity of Washington county. In 1872 he began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. J. T. Norris, at Brenham, and from that year until 1875 attended the Medical Department of the University of Kentucky, at Louisville, graduating at that institution in the spring of 1875. Dr. Baine then began the practice of his profession at Welcome, Austin county, but three years later came to Lexington, Lee county. In addition to his medical practice, he owns a well-stocked drug store, and is also Postmaster of the city.

At Welcome, Austin county, October 6, 1877, Dr. Baine was united in marriage to Ellen Barnhill. They have two children, Ellen and Harry. Politically our subject is not a partisan, and, although he opposes the doctrine of free trade, never allows the ties of party to break the ties of friendship. In his social relations, he is a member of the Legion of Honor.



**M** M. RAGSDALE, a representative farmer of Milam county, is a native of Texas, having been born in what is now Fayette county, November 25, 1835. His parents, James C. and Rebecca (Moss) Ragsdale, were early settlers of Texas, moving here in 1833. The father served in the war by which Texas won its independence, being a member of that glorious band of patriots that won imperishable honors for themselves on the field of San Jacinto. In 1850 the senior Ragsdale moved to Milam county, where he died in March of the following year. He was an industrious farmer and a patriotic citizen. His wife, who was a daughter of Mathew Moss, another of Milam county's worthy pioneers, survived her husband a number of years, dying here in 1878. She and

her husband were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and under the influences of that church as well as in all correct ways of living they raised their family of ten children, most of whom are yet living and filling useful places in society. These are: Smith, who has been a teacher for over forty years, residing now at Llano, this State; Sarah, the widow of L. E. S. Williams, of Milam county; Mathew Moss, the subject of this notice; Andrew R., who was killed in the Confederate army in 1862; Harriet C., now the wife of Joseph Westmoreland, of Hardeman county, this State; Milton, a teacher of Dallas; Caroline, who was married to C. J. Harris, both of whom are deceased; James Madison, who resides in Waxahachie, Ellis county, Texas; Elizabeth R., now Mrs. Manguin, resides at Tacoma in the new State of Washington; and Alice, the wife of George L. Adkison, of Waxahachie, Texas.

M. M. Ragsdale was brought up as most boys were a half century ago in Texas, on the range and farm. His father knew the advantages of an education and used his utmost endeavor to give his children good training in this respect; but Texas during the first fifteen or twenty years after it threw off Mexican authority had graver problems pressing on it for solution than the school question. Such school advantages, however, as existed in the community where the Ragsdale family lived were enjoyed by each member of that family and the subject of this notice got at least the rudiments of a good English education. Accompanying his parents to Milam county, in 1850, he married here nine years later and branched out immediately afterward in the stock business for himself. In 1862 he entered the Confederate army enlisting in an independent company commanded by Captain Armstrong, Ford's regiment, and



served with the command on the southwest frontier of Texas during the remainder of the war. Returning home he took up agricultural pursuits which he has followed steadily and successfully since. He owns a farm of somewhat over 200 acres, most of which is in cultivation, and furnished with suitable improvements necessary for carrying on pleasantly and profitably the business of farming and stock-raising.

In 1859 Mr. Ragsdale married Miss Elizabeth Harris, a daughter of Reuben and Dacey (Mynatt) Harris, who moved from Tennessee to Texas in 1844, but after a year's residence returned to Tennessee, where they died in January, 1858. Mrs. Ragsdale is a native of Tennessee, born July 2, 1841. She is one of eight children and came to Texas in company with an older brother in 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Ragsdale have never had any children, but an adopted daughter, Maud A. Harris, a niece of Mr. Ragsdale, has been a member of their household since infancy and in all things is as near to them as a daughter could be. Mr. Ragsdale is a member of the Presbyterian Church and his wife is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**D** D. THOMSON, a farmer of Williamson county, is a son of W. D. and Permelia Ann Thomson. The family are of Scotch descent, and located in Georgia in a very early day. The grandfather of our sketch, Alexander Thomson, moved in the early part of the present century, to Giles county, Tennessee, where he was one of the early pioneers. He subsequently came to Texas, with what was then known as Robertson's Colony, located a headright in what is now Burleson county, and remained there un-

til his death. He was one of the founders of Methodism in Texas. The father of our subject was born and raised in Tennessee, was married in Maury county, that State, in 1831, to Permelia A. Evans, and came to Texas, and enlisted in the cause of the new Republic of Texas, joining Samuel Houston's army, and serving as Quartermaster. Mr. Thomson brought his family to this State in 1838, locating at old Nashville, Milam county, and remained there thirty years. During that time he represented his county in the Legislature, and also held many county offices. He died at the old homestead in Burleson county, in 1866; the mother departed this life in 1889. They were the parents of seven children; Alexander C., of Santa Anna, Texas; Daniel D., our subject; Roxanna, wife of Colonel J. G. Gordon, of Williamson county; J. Mack, of Belton, Texas; Bettie J., wife of John O. Johnson, of Austin; Lucinda L., yet unmarried; and Fremont K., of Cleburne, Texas.

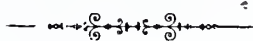
D. D. Thomson, the subject of this sketch, was born in Maury county, Tennessee, June 2, 1834, and came with his parents to Texas at the age of three years. He remained in Milam county until the close of the late war; lived several years in Bosque county, and in 1875 came to his present location. He owns 450 acres of good land, all under fence, and 200 acres of which is cultivated. Politically Mr. Thomson votes with the Democratic party, and religiously is a steward and an active worker in the Methodist Church.

In Burleson county, October 25, 1859, he was united in marriage to Mary J. Easeley. They had five children; Annie C., wife of W. A. Rutledge, of Williamson county, DeWitt D., of Stephens county, Texas; Edgar E., of this county; Bettie A., wife of L. L. Tomlinson, of Williamson county, and Mollie,





now Mrs. W. P. Wales, and a resident also of this county. The wife and mother died in Burleson county, May 19, 1871. September 30, 1875, in Williamson county, Mr. Thomson married Mollie C. King. They have had seven children; Lamar, Ora K., James D., Lillian May, W. A., J. M. and Melville G.



**R**OBERT J. PRICE, a farmer and stock-raiser of Bastrop county, was born in Marion county, Alabama, in 1832, a son of Robert J. and Annie (Moore) Price, natives of Virginia and Alabama, respectively. The parents were married in the latter State. The father was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and both he and his wife died when our subject was small, leaving four children: Robert J.; Mary, who died in Mississippi, was the wife of William Hodges; Abigail, also deceased in that State, married Moses Hodges; Martha, who died in Bastrop county, Texas, was the wife of Miller Hubbard.

Robert J. Price, the subject of this sketch, received a limited education, and in 1850 came to Bastrop county, Texas. He came with an uncle, T. C. Moore, locating in this city, where he was employed as clerk in a dry-goods store three months, receiving \$20 per month and board. He was next engaged as a farm hand, and in 1854 purchased 400 acres of land on Cedar creek, eight miles south of Bastrop, one-half of which tract was timber land and the remainder prairie. Mr. Price's son put the latter under cultivation. He also owned a number of slaves, and, in company with Major Moore, now deceased, was the first to import Durham cattle to this county, in 1857. In 1859 he brought the first Berk-

shire and Poland-China hogs to Bastrop county. After the close of the war Messrs. Price & Moore became the largest importers of cattle in this county. Mr. Price was much in favor of secession, and at the call for troops enlisted in Company L, Eighth Texas Regiment, under Colonel Terry. After the first battle of Corinth he entered the Tennessee army, where he was engaged only in heavy skirmishing, the principal one being at Blair's Landing, at Winchester, Tennessee. Mr. Price was discharged in the fall of 1862, returned home, and in the same fall joined Company A, Thirty-second Texas Cavalry, under Colonel Woods. He afterward served in the Trans-Mississippi Department, and took part in all the battles from Blair's Landing to Yellow Bayou, participating in thirty-two engagements. He was discharged at Houston, May 15, 1865.

After returning home, Mr. Price resumed farming and stock-raising, and remained on his farm until 1890, when he purchased a place and moved to Bastrop. In the same year he traded his farm to his son, Robert E., for one on the Colorado river, consisting of 264 acres, with 250 acres under cultivation. Mr. Price is still interested in the stock business, and at present is engaged in breeding Holstein and Durham cattle. In company with his son, Robert E., he was the first to import to this county Holstein cattle, of which he now owns about thirty-five head. In 1876 Mr. Price received the Democratic nomination for Representative of Bastrop and Fayette counties in the Fourteenth Legislature of Texas, and Governors Coke and Hubbard were the chief executors of the State at that time. That was the first Legislature after reconstruction. Since his retirement from that position, in 1878, he has never sought political preferment, but in 1880 was



selected as Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Bastrop county and held that position until 1892.

In 1854 Mr. Price was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Mitchell, a native of North Carolina, but reared in Mississippi, and a daughter of Elijah P. and Frances (Morris) Mitchell, natives also of North Carolina. The father located in Tippah county, Mississippi, in an early day, and in 1855 came to Bastrop county, Texas. He died in the following year at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Price. His widow afterward removed with her family to Eastland prairie, where she died in 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell were the parents of seven children, four of whom grew to years of maturity: Sarah B., now Mrs. Price; Robert P., a resident of Aberdeen, Mississippi; Max, of Waco, Texas; and Mattie, who married Major R. H. Wells, but both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Price have had eleven children, six now living, and all in the county, viz.: Robert E., Joseph B., James W., Charles M., David S. and Wesley W. Mr. and Mrs. Price are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in which the former is a Steward. Socially, he affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Gamble Lodge, No. 244, and Bastrop Chapter, No. 95.



**L** MOORE, a successful farmer and pioneer citizen of Williamson county, Texas, is a son of L. and Priscilla (Thornton) Moore. The grandfather of our subject, Joseph Moore, was a native of Ireland, but when a young man came to the Colonies. He raised a large family in North Carolina, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. The father of our subject subsequently moved to South Carolina; in 1818

went to Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, and four years later to Fayette county, that State, where he died in 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Moore reared a family of eleven children, three now living: Catherine, who married a Mr. Harkins, now deceased; Elijah, of Coryell county, Texas; and L., our subject. The mother died one month previous to the father's death. The latter was a minister in the Primitive Baptist Church for about forty years.

L. Moore, the subject of this sketch, was born May 16, 1824, six miles west of Fayette courthouse, Fayette county, Alabama, where he grew to manhood. In 1848 he came to Texas, spending the first four years in Bastrop county, and during one year of that time was a member of the State rangers. In 1852 he returned to Alabama, but in 1854 came again to Texas, settling where he now lives, two miles north of Florence, Williamson county. Mr. Moore now owns 500 acres of land, 130 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. In 1862 he enlisted for service in the late war in a cavalry company commanded by Captain Peace. In the spring of 1863 he entered Company G, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, as a private, took part in the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, was taken prisoner at the latter place, but was soon afterward exchanged.

Mr. Moore was married in Fayette county, Alabama, January 9, 1853, to Eppie H. Thornton. They have had nine children, viz.: Alice, wife of Robert Triple, of Salado, Texas; William E. and John D., of Young county, this State; Susan, who with another lady was killed by falling lamps while attending church; Jefferson D., of Indian Territory; Gaines H. and Battie, at home; Mark, of Young county, Texas; and Murray, who was killed by a runaway mule in 1892. Po-



litically, Mr. Moore votes with the Democratic party, and socially is a member of the Grange and the Sons of Temperance. He is a Deacon in the Missionary Baptist Church.

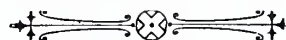


**R**OBERT HANNA, one of the oldest and most respected residents of Williamson county, is a son of Charles M. and Mary B. (Patton) Hanna. The first of this family to come to America was James Hanna, great-grandfather of our subject, who located in York district, South Carolina, where he raised his family. The grandfather, Robert Hanna, served in the Revolutionary war when only eighteen years of age, and several of his brothers were also soldiers in that struggle. After the close of the war he married, and also raised his family in York district. Charles M. Hanna was married in the district of Spartanburg, but soon located in York district, where he in turn raised his family. He practiced medicine there until 1834, and in that year located in Pontotoc county, Mississippi, where he died in 1862. Mrs. Hanna departed this life in 1859.

Robert Hanna, the only survivor of his parents' eight children, and the subject of this sketch, was born in York district, South Carolina, April 5, 1817. When a lad of seventeen years he moved with his parents to Mississippi, where he remained until 1854, and in that year located in Williamson county, Texas. In the following year he settled on 480 acres of his present farm, to which he afterward added 632 acres more, but now owns about 750 acres. The farm is located on Running Brushy creek, eight miles west of the town of Round Rock. By patient toil and industry Mr. Hanna has succeeded in

gaining a competency, and his well-tilled fields and overflowing granaries attest his successful husbandry. A Whig before the late war, his teachings led him to strenuously oppose secession, and after the close of the struggle he voted a few years with the Republican party, but, not agreeing with their monetary legislation, has of late years favored no particular party.

Mr. Hanna was married in Pontotoc county, Mississippi, December 27, 1843, to Miss Sibby Harrison, who was born in Abbeyville district, South Carolina, a daughter of Rev. John and Margaret (Stuart) Harrison. The father was a native of Spartanburg district, South Carolina, and was a minister in the Presbyterian Church, as were also several other members of the Harrison family. After marriage he located in Abbeyville, later in Jackson county, Georgia, where he lived and died. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna have had seven children, four now living: Charles, of Austin; Andrew and Robert, farmers of Williamson county; and Thomas S., a surveyor of this county.



**T**HOMAS CULVERWELL, farmer and stock raiser of Milan county, is a native of England, having been born in Somersetshire July 21, 1851. In 1855 his parents immigrated to America and settled near Norfolk, Virginia, where the subject of this sketch was reared. His father died when the subject of this notice was in his tenth year and most of the family possessions having been swept away by the ravages of the late war, his education was limited. In 1872 he came to Texas and for three years was engaged in driving cattle from this State to Wyoming. He located in Milan county in 1875, where he en-

of the individual in



gaged in the sheep industry. For ten years he followed this successfully, when having purchased some land he turned his attention about 1885 to farming. He owns at this time a splendid tract of land, consisting of 1,281 acres, most of which is devoted to stock raising. He is an enthusiastic and intelligent breeder of fine stock and is doing a great deal to raise the grade and improve the strains of stock in his locality. Mr. Culverwell is devoted strictly to business pursuits, never having taken any part in public matters. He married in Milam county on the 20th of July, 1876, Miss Martha T. Knight, who was born near Fairfield, Freestone county, Texas, December 11, 1856. She was reared an orphan and unfortunately has come into possession of but little information relative to her parentage. Mr. and Mrs. Culverwell are members of the Methodist Church in which he is a Steward and both are zealous workers. Mr. Culverwell's course in life has been such as to commend him in a marked manner to the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. Upright in his dealings, generous and public-spirited, he has exerted a good influence in the community where he lives and furthered all purposes calculated to upbuild the moral and religious elements of society. In this labor he has been encouraged by an excellent wife, a lady of many splendid qualities of head and heart, and one who has succeeded in drawing around herself the best social elements of the community.



**J**OHAN M. McCLANAHAN, of Lee county, Texas, is a son of Colonel Milton and Dorothea (Keys) McClanahan. Two brothers of this name, William and

James, came from Scotland to Botetourt county, Virginia, in Colonial times, and took part in the Revolutionary war, serving six months alternately. It was then a common occurrence when two of a family were in service for one to serve six months, and then return home and the other would take his place. William McClanahan was the great-grandfather of our subject. The family continued to reside in that county until the early part of this century, when the grandfather of our subject, James McClanahan, moved with his family to Blount county, Tennessee. Milton McClanahan was born at that place July 5, 1796, went to Alabama when a young man, was there married, and then located in Lawrence county. In 1846 he came to Burleson county, Texas, where he died October 30, 1861. While in Alabama he was a member of the Legislature from 1834 to 1846, in both the lower house and the Senate, having resigned his seat in the latter to come to Texas. Politically, he was a Democrat; religiously, a member of the Baptist Church, and was a man of good influence. He received his title of Colonel for service in the State militia during the war of 1812. The Keys family were originally from Virginia. The grandfather of our subject, George Keys, subsequently moved to Georgia, where Mrs. McClanahan was born March 14, 1802. At the age of fourteen years she went with her parents to Tennessee, afterward to Alabama, and was married in Lawrence county, that State. She died in January, 1892, at the age of ninety years. Mr. and Mrs. McClanahan had nine children, six now living: Harvey, a farmer of Lee county; John M., our subject; Frances, wife of G. W. Moore, of Milam county; Susan, wife of F. M. Parks, of Hale county; Martha, now Mrs. Thomas Adkins, of Lee



county; and Henry, a farmer of this county.

John M. McClanahan was born in Lawrence county, Alabama, May 30, 1832, and came with his parents to Texas in 1846. He began farming at the age of twenty-one years, and, in 1857, immediately after his marriage, located on his present farm. He now owns 300 acres of land, 120 acres of which is under a good state of cultivation. During the late war he was engaged in detail service in Wall's division, commissary department. In 1884 Mr. McClanahan was the Democratic nominee for the State Legislature, for the district composed of Burleson and Lee counties, and was elected by the largest majority ever given any candidate in this locality. He held that office by re-elections until 1888. Socially, he is a Royal Arch Mason; and religiously a Clerk and Deacon in the Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. McClanahan was married in Caldwell, Texas, August 25, 1857, to Bettie Horton, and they had four children: James W., Tax Collector of Caldwell, Burleson county; John S., a farmer of Lee county; and Mamie and Annie, twins, the former a teacher in the Caldwell school, and the latter in the Lexington school. Mrs. McClanahan died in June, 1874, and in 1882 our subject married Annie Griffin. This wife died in January, 1892.

James Harvey McClanahan, a brother of the subject of this sketch, was born in Lawrence county, Alabama, October 26, 1822, and came with his parents to Texas in 1846. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the late war, in Company H, Second Texas Infantry, and was sent to Galveston. On account of sickness he was soon obliged to return home, after which he was engaged principally on detached service. Mr. McClanahan resides at the old homestead, where he has 100 acres

of land, forty-eight acres cultivated. In his political relations he is a Democrat, and religiously is a member of the Baptist Church.

December 7, 1871, he was united in marriage to Dollie A. Johnson, a native of Alabama, who came with her parents to Texas after the close of the Civil war. To this union have been born four children, viz.: Ora, who was killed in a runaway accident; Lee, deceased; Emma, deceased; and Bertha, at home.



**T**HOMPSON F. FOWLER, deceased.—

When we survey the useful labors of many men we are often compelled to regret the meagerness of their personal histories left on record. This is especially true of those who from native modesty have shunned rather than courted publicity during their lives. It is one of the purposes of this volume to rescue from oblivion and preserve in its appropriate place an account of the labors of the leading citizens of the locality covered by it, together with brief notes of their personal characteristics and manner of conducting themselves towards their fellow-men. Among those deserving this recognition, mention may here be made of the late Thompson F. Fowler, farmer, stock raiser and influential citizen of Davilla, Milam county. Mr. Fowler was a native of Pike county Missouri, born March 22, 1836. At the age of fourteen he was brought by his parents to Texas, and was reared in Gonzales and Burnet counties, where they resided during his early years. November 2, 1858, he married Miss Martha Smithwick of Burnet county, and in 1860 moved to California, which State, with brief intervals of temporary absence, continued to be his home until 1872. In the meantime having lost

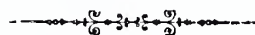


his wife in California and married a second time in this state, he returned here and took up his residence permanently in Milam county in January 1873. He continued a resident of this county from that time until his death, which occurred June 14, 1886. He led an active life throughout his whole career and accumulated a considerable amount of property. He was engaged mostly in live-stock business and in trading in lands. At his death he left an estate consisting of about 5,000 acres of land and considerable personal property, and this after having made provision for his children. He was a liberal and cheerful contributor to all charitable purposes, making his life so far as it lay in his power to do so, an acceptable fulfillment of the golden rule. He left surviving him a widow and four sons, two of the sons being by his first wife, and two by the last.

Mrs. Mildred M. Fowler, second wife of Thompson F. Fowler, was born in Fayette county this State October 30, 1847, and is a daughter of Abner and Maria Kuykendall, who moved to Texas in 1831. Her father was born in Tennessee in 1807, and her mother in Kentucky in 1811. They were among the early settlers in this State, and belonged to the wealthy and cultured class of citizens composed of slave owners and planters in *ante-bellum* days. They moved from Fayette to Bell county, where the father was for some years engaged in milling and merchandising. He died in Johnson county in 1867, aged sixty years. His widow survived until June 1892, reaching the ripe age of eighty-one. Both were life-long members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of which organization they were pioneers in Texas. For many years before her death the mother made her home with

her daughter, Mrs. Fowler, where she received the care and attention due her. Since her husband's death Mrs. Fowler has had the control of his estate consisting of several thousand acres of land nearly a thousand of which is under cultivation. She farms largely by tenants, for whom she has made ample provision in the way of comfortable buildings and with whom she gets along pleasantly, and succeeds financially far better than the average man. Her two sons, Eugene G., born September 12, 1870, and Thompson E., born July 11, 1874, remain with her, and render her dutiful service. Mr. Fowler's two sons by his first wife, the elder Charles L., born April 6, 1860, being a merchant at Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Wiley, born October 5, 1863, living in western Texas.

Mrs. Fowler was reared in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, having been an active member of that church for many years.



THOMAS H. GRAVES.—The true heroes of America are those who, from time to time, have left the comforts of civilized life and planted the seeds of new States deep in the wilderness. Of this number were Dr. John H. Graves and wife, who were for many years residents of Milam county and who though now deceased have left lasting monuments to their memory in the lives and character of their descendants. They had six children, five of whom became grown and four of whom are now citizens of this county, sketches of three of them appearing in this volume. Dr. Graves and wife were natives of North Carolina, where they were born now nearly a century ago. They





married there and moved thence in 1852 to Texas, settling in Independence, Washington county. After a residence at that place of six years they came to Milam county, where they spent the remainder of their lives, he dying here in April, 1888, at the ripe old age of eighty-two, and his wife in November, 1890, at the age of seventy-six. In earlier life he was devoted to the practice of his profession — that of dentistry — but later engaged in farming and stock raising. He was a prominent Mason and both he and his wife were life-long members of the Baptist Church. Both were diligent in the discharge of their duties as parents and as members of society, as is fully evidenced not only by the testimony of those who knew them, but also by the industrious, exemplary Christian lives which their sons and daughters are leading. Their six children are: Hattie, who is now the wife of S. M. Dunlap of Ballinger, Runnels county; Thomas H., the subject of this sketch; Preston, who died young; Fred A., of Milam county; Julia, the wife of D. Davis of this county; George S., also of this county.

Thomas H. Graves was born in Caswell county, North Carolina, February 16, 1842. He was just ten years old when his parents moved to Texas and settled in Washington county and sixteen when they came to Milam county. He received such educational advantages as were offered in the localities where he grew up. At the age of nineteen he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in 1861, in Company D, Fourth Texas Cavalry, Green's brigade, with which he served during the first year of the war in New Mexico and Arizona. His command then returning, he joined the forces operating west of the Mississippi river, from which time on until the close of hostilities he served in Arkansas,

Louisiana and Texas. He took part in all the engagements in which his regiment participated, these including the recapture of Galveston in 1863, but was never wounded nor taken prisoner. At the close of the war he returned to Milam county, where he scraped together sufficient means to buy a small pair of mules and engage in farming. He followed this and worked for others as a farm and stock hand at \$15 a month, his wages being increased as his services became more valuable, until he saved a few hundred dollars, which he invested in lands. At length he began trading in stock and branched out in his farming operations until he now owns about 2,500 acres of valuable land, about 400 acres of which is in cultivation, on which he raises an abundance of Texas staple products, cotton and corn. His land is divided into farms, which he leases to tenants, giving his personal attention to buying, feeding and marketing cattle for beef. He feeds from 600 to 800 head annually, which he generally succeeds in disposing of to good advantage. Mr. Graves has succeeded admirably in life, and his success and talent for business might justify him in aspiring to a higher career if he chose to do so; but he has never sought distinction of any kind nor exhibited an undue desire for wealth. His wish seems to be to live up to the full measure of his responsibilities as a man and a citizen, and leave the glamour and tinsel, the glory of wealth and fame to others. He interests himself actively in everything of importance relating to the welfare of the community where he resides, being a staunch supporter of the schools and churches. He and his brothers, Fred A. and George S., donated the land and erected at their own expense a good school building in their neighborhood, where they have conducted for



eight months in the year as good a country school as can be found in Milam county.

In 1880 Mr. Graves married Miss Addie Tribble, daughter of George C. and Rebecca Tribble, who moved from Mississippi to Texas in 1875 and settled in Milam county, where the mother died in 1889 and the father in 1891. Mrs. Graves was born in Mississippi, October, 1858, and was a young lady when her parents moved to this State. Mr. and Mrs. Graves have had six children born to them, five of whom are living: George, born January, 1881; Henry, born October, 1883; Lura, born October, 1885; Paul, born January, 1888; and Estell, born January, 1890.

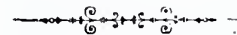


**W**B. HENRY, one of the old settlers of Texas was born in Wayne county, Tennessee, July 21 1829, son of Franklin and Tabitha (Canada) Henry, both natives of east Tennessee. The father was a farmer, born, reared and married in Tennessee, who removed to Alabama in 1830, remained there until quite an old man, then returned to the State of his nativity, settled in Lawrence county, middle Tennessee, where he remained until 1850, when he started for Texas, but only reached Memphis when his wife was taken sick and died. He then returned to Franklin county, Alabama, where he lived on a farm until he died, about 1855. He had a family of four children, namely: our subject, Nancy, Caroline and Alexander.

Our subject came to Texas in 1854, and settled on a farm in Williamson county after his marriage in 1856. For his wife he wedded Elizabeth Thompson, which lady is still living. During the late war our subject hauled cotton for the Government, run-

ning several ox teams. Since the war he has been farming, wagoning and freighting. His wife is a native of Alabama, daughter of G. G. and Milanda Thompson, who came to Texas with their family in 1854. Mrs. Henry was one of seven children, namely: Martha, Mrs. J. Wade; Mrs. Henry, living in Texas; Thamar, living in Texas; Catherine, Mrs. T. W. Marrs; Ervin, a farmer of Bell county, Texas; Eliza, Mrs. Ben Adkinson; and T. J. Thompson, now living at Bertram, Texas.

Our subject and wife have four children, namely: George, married to Mrs. High, living in east Texas; Mary C., wife of James Willingham, residing in Bell county; Elizabeth, Mrs. Marion Ray, residing in east Texas; and Lucy, Mrs. Solomon Presley, a farmer. Mrs. Henry is a member of the Baptist Church, in which she takes an active part. Our subject is one of the pioneers of this part of the State, and during his long residence here has gained the confidence and esteem of a wide circle of friends. He has always been industrious, honest and worthy of any confidence that might be reposed in him. He and his estimable wife enjoy the good wishes of every one who knows them. These good people are well deserving an honorable place among the worthy citizens of Williamson county.



**S**P. RITCHEY, one of the pioneer farmers of Williamson county, residing at Beankiss, was born in Benton county, Alabama, in 1842. At the age of twelve years he was brought to Texas, and has since resided in the Lone Star State. His father, G. W. Ritchey, was a native of South Carolina; he removed thence with his parents



and for a time lived in Georgia before locating in Alabama; he was an extensive planter and met with great prosperity. His father, Joseph Ritchey, was also a native of South Carolina; he had two sons, William and G. W.; the latter was united in marriage to Emeline Willis, a daughter of John and Ann (Milligan) Willis, and one of a family of eight children, named as follows: William, Nelson, Harvey, Betsey, Emeline, Margaret, Cynthia and Flora. G. W. Ritchey and wife had a family of seven children: Martha, wife of Alfred Griffin; Steward, deceased; S. P., the subject of this notice; Johnson; Kate, wife of John Kelly; Margaret, wife of Mr. Cook; and Hugh Anderson.

The public-school system had not reached its perfect development during the youth of Mr. Ritchey, and even district schools were few, and conducted quite indifferently. He lived a quiet, uneventful life until the fall of 1861, when he entered the Confederate service, joining Captain Buckholtz's company; he was assigned to the First Regiment of Sibley's brigade, and was sent to the western frontier, and, although there were several engagements, Mr. Ritchey was prevented from participating on account of a severe attack of a more subtle, though not less dangerous foe, smallpox. In June, 1862, he assisted in retaking Galveston, and spent the following winter in Texas. The next year witnessed many important movements of the Confederacy, but Mr. Ritchey's company was compelled to fall back through Arkansas to Texas and go into camp at Moseby's Ferry; there he remained until the cessation of hostilities and the inauguration of peace. Returning to Williamson county he resumed his former occupation of farming. In 1867 he located on his present place, a tract of wild, unimproved land. His first purchase was of one

hundred acres. His efforts have been rewarded by a most generous response from mother earth, and his harvests have been bountiful. He has purchased an additional seventy acres in this county, and owns 366 acres in Burnet county. His land is devoted to the culture of cotton, and he holds his crops for satisfactory prices. In 1892 he disposed of crops of 1890, 1891 and 1892 for \$9.50, his neighbors having sold the same crops for \$6 and \$7.

In September, 1862, Mr. Ritchie was united in marriage to Cornelia Woodruff, a daughter of John and Sarah (Smith) Woodruff. Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff reared a family of four children: Eliza, wife of Eli Nations, Miranda, Julia and Mrs. Ritchie. Both the father and mother had children by a former marriage. Mr. Ritchie and wife had born to them a family of twelve children: Almon, Robert and Anna (twins), Mary, Frank, Adaline, Bettie, Thomas, Irene, Callie, John, and Charlie. Anna is the wife of J. F. Riles. The family are connected with the Baptist Church, and are highly respected in the community.



**I** SAAC M. WILLIAMS, a prominent citizen and farmer of Williamson county, is a son of James B. and Sarah (Coffey) Williams. The paternal grandfather, Isaac Williams, raised his family in Madison county, Kentucky, and afterward moved to Arkansas, where he subsequently died. James B. Williams was born and raised in Kentucky, was there married in 1834, immediately moved to Washington county, Arkansas, in 1849 settled on the land our subject now owns in Williamson county, Texas, and in 1852 removed to San Saba



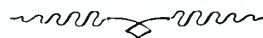


county, this State. While there the father was a member of a company of State Rangers, under Captain John Williams, who was murdered by the Indians at Baby Head, Llano county, Texas. Mr. Williams served several years. He died July 1, 1891, the mother having departed this life in 1862. They were the parents of eleven children, namely: William Mason, deceased, was a minister in the Christian Church; Elizabeth, wife of W. M. Howell, of Williamson county; Isaac M., our subject; Jane, wife of Evan Mankins, of this county; David, deceased; Kels H. and John, of Williamson county; Ellen, wife of George Tacket, of Erath county, Texas; Lynn, Maggie, and James, deceased. After the mother's death, the father married Martha Ward, and they had three children: Etta and Emma (twins), and Lee. Mr. Williams was a farmer and stock-raiser by occupation, a Democrat in his political views, and a member of the Christian Church. The Coffey family were early settlers of Kentucky, the mother of our subject having been born and raised in that State, and many of her relatives still reside there.

Isaac M. Williams, the subject of this biography, was born in Washington county, Arkansas, April 19, 1844, and came to Texas at the age of five years. In 1861, at the opening of the late war, he enlisted in Company A, Morgan's Cavalry Company, served on the west side of the Mississippi river, and took part in the battles of Gravel Ridge, Cape Girardeau, Old Jackson, White Water, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, etc. He had two horses shot under him, one at White Water and the other at Old Jackson, but was never wounded or captured. After returning from the army Mr. Williams resumed farming and stock-raising, and has resided on his

present farm about twelve years. He owns 3,500 acres of good land, 1,000 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation, and located about four miles from Georgetown. This is one of the best ranches in Williamson county.

Mr. Williams was married in this county, July 13, 1864, to Elizabeth Roberts, who was born in Burleson county, Texas, but raised in Williamson county. She is one of seven children, most of whom reside in Brown, Wood and Howard counties, Texas. The Roberts family have resided in this State for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have had eight children, namely: William Mason, deceased; Enzy D., of Williamson county; Sallie, wife of J. W. Styles; King, a resident of this county; Lucy, wife of W. W. Edwards; and Fannie, Willie, and Maggie, at home. In his political relations, Mr. Williams affiliates with the Democratic party.



GEORGE IRVINE, a manufacturer of artificial ice, and proprietor of the City Mills of Georgetown, was born on Orkney Islands, March 21, 1841, a son of Thomas and Jennette Irvine. In early life the father was a contractor and builder in Scotland, but in 1848 emigrated to Canada, where he followed farming until his death, in May, 1891, at the age of eighty-four years. He was a member of the Universalist Church, held many of the minor offices of his county, and was well, favorably and extensively known. His memory is cherished by all who knew him, as a tender, generous, noble man and a worthy citizen. The mother, born in 1805, died June 6, 1893, at the age of eight-eight years. She was a member of the Universalist Church, but both



she and her husband were formerly Scotch Presbyterians. Mr. and Mrs. Irvine had five children: Thomas, who died in Georgetown in 1885; Edward, a resident of Lincoln county, Ontario; George, our subject; Jennette, wife of Thomas Theal, a farmer of Lincoln county; and Absolom T., who was for many years manager of the lumber business of our subject, but is now bookkeeper for Whittle & Talbert. He married Miss Jennie Patterson, of Ontario. Thomas married Eliza M. Cobb, whose parents resided in Michigan.

George Irvine, the subject of this sketch, was educated in Canada, and also taught school in that country several years. In the fall of 1867 he located in Bee county, Texas, but shortly afterward removed to Refugio county, following carpentering and building there eleven years, and in 1878 came to Georgetown. He followed the same occupation in this city until 1881, and in that year associated himself with his brother, Thomas, in the lumber business and contracting, which partnership continued until the brother's death in 1885. Mr. Irvine continued the business alone until 1890, when he sold the lumber yard and purchased the gristmill, where he grinds about 100,000 bushels annually. The ice factory was purchased in 1886. From 1880 to 1890 Mr. Irvine had from fifteen to fifty employes on his pay roll, and in addition to these interests, he is also a stockholder in the Georgetown & Granger Railroad. He served as Justice of the Peace in Bee county, and has been Alderman of Georgetown for the past seven or eight years.

In Canada, in 1871, he was united in marriage to Rebecca Kent, a native of Canada, and of English descent. They have five children: Eva, Edgar, Chester, Etta May and George Oscar. Mr. and Mrs. Irvine are members of the Episcopal Church, of which

the former is a member of the Vestry and Senior Warden. He has been a member of the Masonic Order for twenty-seven years, of the chapter and blue lodge, and is also a member of the Woodmen of the World. He is an accommodating gentleman, a true Scotchman, and has the respect and confidence of all who know him.



**T** W. PARKHILL, the subject of this notice, is a son of a former well-known citizen of Burleson county, David Parkhill, who moved to this county in 1851, and was a resident of the same until his death, more than twenty-five years later. David Parkhill was a son of Eli Parkhill, and was born in the State of New York, August 12, 1817. Accompanying his parents to Michigan in his youth he grew up there, and there, in the town of Owosso, on the 2d of March, 1843, married Delia Pratt. Eight years later he came to Texas and settled in Burleson county, where he spent the remainder of his life. He learned the trade of carpenter in his early manhood and followed it both in Michigan and in this State, having planned and superintended the construction of many of the houses that were erected at an earlier date in Burleson county. About 1865 Mr. Parkhill gave up business pursuits and gave his attention to politics, in which he was an active participant for a number of years. He was elected Treasurer of the county in 1868, and held the office until his death ten years later. He was an upright and capable officer, and enjoyed to the end of his days the confidence of his fellow-citizens. Of a nervous and restless disposition, he constantly busied himself with his personal interests and the duties of his office, and worked almost up to



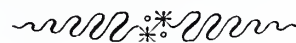
the day of his death. He belonged to the Baptist Church, with which he was connected for many years. His widow died March 14, 1883, at the age of fifty-eight, the same day on which her mother died, the latter at the age of one hundred. The children of David and Delia Parkhill were: Emma L., who was born January 15, 1844, was married to J. W. Farmer and died in Burleson county in 1877; Eli S., born November 9, 1845, now a resident of Caldwell; Albert, born November 21, 1849, now living in Llano county; Truman W., of this article; Edward F., born July 17, 1855, now deceased; Alice M., born May 25, 1857, was married to C. R. Porter and resides in Llano county; Nina, born October 2, 1859, was married to J. J. McMillan and is now deceased; and George H., who was born March 21, 1861, and is now deceased.

Truman W. Parkhill was born in Burleson county, Texas, December 12, 1852. He was reared here, having been brought up on the farm. On the thirty-first day of December, 1874, he married Miss Cornelia Houston, a daughter of T. J. Houston, an old settler of Burleson county, Mrs. Parkhill having been born in this county. She died March 13, 1877, and on May 26, 1881, Mr. Parkhill married Miss Sallie Burns, then of Lee county, and a daughter of William and Anna Burns, who moved to this State from Arkansas about 1865. The present Mrs. Parkhill was born in Columbia county, Arkansas, where her people were for several years residents. Her mother's maiden name was Warren, and she was a member of a prominent family of Arkansas, being a sister of Edward A. Warren, who was a Congressman for many years from that State, and a sister of B. W. M. Warren, who was in the State Senate several years in Arkansas. Mrs. Parkhill's family moved from Mississippi to Arkansas.

Her father was born in Bedford county, Tennessee, and her mother in Greene county, Alabama. They were married in Salem, Tippah county, Mississippi, in 1842, and in 1850 moved to Arkansas, settling in Columbia county, and resided in that State—mostly in Camden—until their removal to Texas fifteen years later. Mrs. Parkhill is one of seven children born to her parents, the others being Edward Burns, the present Assessor of Lee county, this State; William J., who is now deceased; Lavenia, wife of William Doak, of Lexington, Lee county, Texas; Mint, who was married to Charles Davis and is now deceased; Mary, who was married to Abe Mathis and resides in Bell county; and Jennie, who died at the age of sixteen.

By his former marriage Mr. Parkhill had one child, a daughter, Nellie. By his last marriage he has three: Annie Mabel, Jack and Lawrence Lee.

Mr. Parkhill resides on the old homestead, where, with the exception of one year, he has spent his entire life. Agriculture and stock-raising have formed his chief pursuits in life, in both of which he has met with reasonable success. He owns a farm of about 350 acres, one-third of which is in cultivation. He takes but little active interest in politics, and has never held any public office.



**J**AMES M. DENSON, a merchant of Granger, was born in Rankin county, Mississippi, April 18, 1837, a son of T. C. and Elizabeth (Davis) Denson, natives of Alabama. T. C. Denson was a son of Nathaniel Denson, a native also of Alabama. The former subsequently moved to Tennessee, later to Mississippi, and in 1854 came to Williamson county, Texas, having practiced





medicine both before and after locating in this State. He purchased a tract of land on Williamson creek, where he died in 1875, having followed his profession within two years of his death. The mother of our subject was a daughter of Patrick Davis, of Irish descent, who was reared in Kentucky. Mrs. Denson now finds a home with her son, and is seventy-seven years of age. The parents of our subject reared eight children, viz.: James M., the subject of this biography; Mary A., who was first married to R. Homes, and later became the wife of E. Goode; Elizabeth, wife of H. C. Ederington, a farmer of Williamson county; Maggie, who married Monroe Barnhart, engaged in the hotel business at Bartlett; T. J., at the old homestead; Ann, wife of Otho Durant, a stock-raiser of Abilene; B. F., of Granger; and Bell, wife of T. Daniels, proprietor of a livery stable of this city.

James M. Denson moved with his parents to Arkansas when quite young, and in 1854 came to Williamson county, Texas. He remained under the parental roof until the opening of the late war, after which he served with Johnston's spy command four months, and returned home after the battle of Springfield, Missouri, having never regularly enlisted up to that time. He then entered as a private in Company A, Morgan's battalion, under General Holmes, afterward Carter's regiment, and served in Arkansas, Louisiana and Missouri. Mr. Denson took part in many of the memorable battles and skirmishes with Marmaduke; was promoted from Third to First Lieutenant, and the regiment disbanded in Robertson county, Texas. Our subject spent the following year in Missouri, and then returned to Texas to take charge of his father's business, which he continued until the latter's death. He then followed

agricultural pursuits until 1880, and in that year was elected Tax Assessor of Williamson county, on the Greenback ticket, when the county was purely Democratic, serving in that position four years. In 1882 Mr. Denson began merchandising at Granger, but did not take full charge of the business until 1887, when he moved with his family to this city, and since that time has followed mercantile pursuits. He also owns a large farm, 500 acres of which are under cultivation, and he is extensively engaged in cattle-raising and cotton-buying.

April 23, 1873, he was united in marriage to Miss Kate Caruthers, who was born in North Carolina, August 7, 1852, a daughter of William Caruthers, a native also of that State. The father came to Williamson county, Texas, in 1853, and his death occurred while in the army. His wife survived him only a few years. Mr. and Mrs. Denson have had eight children, viz.: James E., born June 1, 1874, is at home; Lucy K., born April 18, 1878; Augusta E.; Cornelia M., May 3, 1880; Tom N., December 7, 1883; William D., May 19, 1886; Carrie, August 8, 1889; and Frank C., June 16, 1891. Socially, Mr. Denson was formerly a member of the Grange, and is a Royal Arch Mason; is independent in his political views; and, religiously, both he and his wife are members of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**A**ARON R. ROBBINS, a farmer of Williamson county, was born on Spring river, in what was then Arkansas Territory, April 5, 1826, a son of Aaron and Elizabeth (Massey) Robbins, the former a native of Tennessee, and the latter of Virginia. The father was reared by his widowed

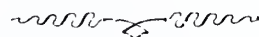


mother, who came to Texas in 1855, and died a few months later, at the age of ninety-five years. Her husband, the paternal grandfather of our subject, served in the Revolutionary war. Aaron Robbins followed farming during his life, accumulated a good estate, and his death occurred April 20, 1866. His wife died in August, 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Robbins were the parents of five children, viz.: Sarah, who came to Texas, and married Robert Robbins, a distant relative, but both are now deceased; Aaron, our subject; Nancy, deceased, who was the wife of John Foster; and Richard, a retired farmer of Granger.

Aaron R. Robbins learned the trade of wheelwright at the age of seventeen years, and in 1849 he came to Williamson county, Texas, living the first year at Georgetown. He spent the following year in Arkansas but in 1852 came again to this county, where he has ever since remained. He first purchased 160 acres of raw land, and at once began its improvement and stock-raising. In the spring of 1863 Mr. Robbins entered the Confederate army, in Company K, Captain Reef's company, Sterman's regiment, served in Arkansas, and the first year was detailed for repairing and doing wagon work. He then returned home on a furlough, later rejoined his command, and engaged in field service under Captain Smith. He took part in many skirmishes, and, although his horse was shot while under him, he was never wounded or captured. After the close of the struggle our subject resumed farming and stock-raising.

November 15, 1849, he was united in marriage to Miss Susan Hanna, a daughter of James Hanna, a native Arkansas, but who died in Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Robbins had six children, viz.: Mary, wife of John Gardiner, a farmer of Coryell county; James H., a

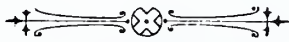
farmer of Williamson county; Easter, deceased, was the wife of D. Anderson; Henry, a school-teacher; Bell, wife of J. F. Quicksall, a farmer and school teacher of McCulloch county, Texas; and Susan C., wife of Warren Smith, a plumber of Waco. Mrs. Robbins died March 15, 1885. June 12, of the same year, Mr. Robbins married Mrs. Elizabeth Burlew, a daughter of Stephen Strickland, an early settler of Texas, who taught the first school in Georgetown. He died December 10, 1890. This wife died June 28, 1888, and December 10, 1889, our subject married Mrs. Virginia Spurlan, a daughter of William Daniels, who came to Texas about 1836, having been a resident of Bastrop county. He was thrown from a horse and killed. Mr. Robbins affiliates with the Democratic party, and religiously both he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.



**R**OBERT L. NICHOLS, one of the most prosperous farmers of Bastrop county, was born in the town of Bastrop, September 19, 1857, a son of James R. and Josephine F. (Garth) Nichols. Robert attended the schools of his native place, and completed his education in the A. & M. College, at Bryan, this State, in his twenty-second year. After returning home he followed for a time the carpenter's trade, which he had learned of his father at the age of sixteen years. In connection with this he was also engaged in agricultural pursuits, owning a large farm of Colorado river bottom land, consisting of 1,400 acres, 750 acres of which is cultivated. Mr. Nichols is one of the most successful and enterprising farmers in Bastrop county, and is also engaged in buying and selling cattle



He was married in 1884, to Miss Mary Wilkes, a native of Winchester, Fayette county, Texas, and a daughter of James E. and Martha (Davis) Wilkes, natives of Tennessee. Both families are among the early settlers of Fayette county. James Wilkes was a farmer and gin owner and accumulated quite a competency. During the late war he served as a non-commissioned officer in his company. His death occurred in 1878 and his wife still resides at the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkes had six children: James, a resident of Winchester, Texas; Mary, wife of our subject; William, of Flatonia, Fayette county; Horace, deceased; Mattie; and two deceased unmarried. Mr. and Mrs. Nichols have had five children: Wilkes, Garth, Louise, Leon and Bessie. Mrs. Nichols is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject affiliates with the K. of P., Smithville Lodge, No. 92.



**G**A. D. CLAMP, one of the oldest citizens of Georgetown, Williamson county, Texas, was born in the city of Thorn, Prussia, March 1, 1827. He was the son of John and Elizabeth Clamp. His life, until he was eighteen years old, was spent at home, his education being obtained from the academy in his native city. He was nineteen years of age when he left his father's house to come to this far distant country, America. The trip was made in a sail-vessel, and they were on the water 120 days. Mr. Clamp landed in Galveston and spent two years there, being one of the yellow-fever sufferers in that dreadful scourge in the latter part of 1849. From Galveston he went to Houston, but not liking the place, went on to Austin county, on the Brazos, where he worked as

contractor and builder. It was here he met Miss Asenath Davis, whose native State was Georgia, but whose parents came to Texas when it was a republic. Mr. Clamp and Miss Davis were married April 18, 1850. In October 1851 they came to Georgetown, Williamson county, where until 1863, Mr. Clamp found a good opening for building, for there were less than a dozen houses, one blacksmith shop, one church, two stores and two places where whiskey could be purchased. Mr. Clamp opened a carpenter's shop, making furniture, spinning wheels and looms as well as doors, sash and blinds; where Georgetown now stands was almost a wilderness, and many times Mr. Clamp stood in his house door and heard wild turkeys fly up to roost, and before breakfast next morning would have enough turkey to supply the town for the day. Deer, bear and panther were easily found and the whoop of the Indian was heard in the cedar-brake above town, and they would often swoop down and capture a pony or two, then retreat in good order.

In 1859 a mountain lion was killed within what is now the corporate limits of Georgetown. Mr. Clamp has killed a panther weighing over 500 pounds, and also killed a medium sized panther near Georgetown as late as 1870; at one time he was chased by nine Havelinas, and after killing the leader, dropped his gun and was obliged to scramble up a tree, where he was kept four hours.

The District Court was held under the shade of a grand old live-oak tree, which stood until three years ago. Mr. Clamp, among other pioneers found out what hard times really were, for at one time for several weeks he only had corn-bread mixed up with cold water, and wild onions to eat. Their next door neighbor was the first to bring a dollar's worth of flour from Austin, and mix-





ing flour with soda and water, the family called in their neighbors to share the rare treat with them. Lumber was hauled from Bastrop on ox wagons. In February of 1853 it was so cold that the Gabriel was frozen over and great blocks of ice were cut and stored away in one of the cellars. In 1863, Mr. Clamp engaged in the mercantile business, under the firm name of Anderson, Clamp & Co. They bought domestic at \$28 a bolt, forty yards in a bolt, and sold it for \$160,00 (Confederate money). In 1865 Mr. Clamp went in business alone, adding furniture to his stock and since 1879 has given his attention to the latter business entirely. In 1878 he was elected Mayor of the town and served two years. Politically, he is, and always has been a staunch Republican, and was a Union man during the war. Mr. and Mrs. Clamp are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which organization Mr. Clamp is an Elder. Mr. and Mrs. Clamp had eleven children of whom nine were reared to maturity. Mr. Clamp has lived in Georgetown for forty-two years and has seen the town and county grow up around him, has suffered many sorrows, and found compensating joys here, and pronounces Williamson county, the garden spot of Texas, and a place which the Lord has certainly blessed. He is a successful business man and his highly valued for his enterprise and sterling qualities of mind and heart.



**F**RED A. GRAVES.—“Seest thou a man diligent in business, he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.” This observation of the author of the Book of Proverbs has formed the text for a greater number of learned sermons than it has found exemplars in the actual affairs

of life. But illustrations are not lacking, and in the somewhat long list of thrifty and successful men whose personal records appear in this volume, probably none more fully justifies a reference to these words of wisdom spoken by the poet and philosopher than the subject of this brief sketch.

Fred A. Graves, son of John and Julia Graves, was born in Walton county, Georgia, May 17, 1847. His parents coming to this State five years later, his childhood and early youth were passed in Washington county, where they first settled, and in Milam county, to which they moved five years later. At the age of fifteen—1862—he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in the Fourth Texas cavalry, Sibley’s brigade, with which he served in Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana, taking part in all the engagements in which his command participated, being in active service until the close of the war. When hostilities had ceased he returned home; worked awhile on his father’s farm; attended school one session, and then took work in the stock business at \$15 per month. He was so employed, receiving an increase of wages from time to time and investing his earnings in land and stock, until 1871, at which date he married and began farming and stock-raising on a small scale for himself. He prospered steadily from the beginning, and at this writing, 1893, he owns three different farms, aggregating 5,300 acres, 900 of which is in cultivation and yielding in accordance with the well-known productiveness of the black, waxy belt in which it lies. Mr. Graves farms largely by tenants, for whom he has made full provision, and with whom he gets along most satisfactorily. He runs in connection with his farming operations and for neighborhood patronage, a large steam gin, which is kept busy during the ginning season. He is also





*J. A. Burvsey,*



engaged extensively in the stock business, and has been for a number of years, buying, feeding and marketing, from 800 to 1,500 head of cattle annually. He is a stockholder in the oil mill at Rockdale, and is always ready to invest his money in any local enterprise that promises legitimate private returns or permanent public good. The educational, religious and moral interests of the community find in him a particularly warm supporter, it being well understood that his name stands pledged at all times for the maintenance of these. He and his brothers, Thomas H. and George S., have donated the land and erected a school building in their neighborhood, where a good school is conducted nine months in the year. He also gave to the Methodist Church, of which he is a zealous member, ten acres of land, on which he erected sheds and other equipments necessary for holding meetings, and where meetings are held for several weeks in each year, resulting in much good to the people of that vicinity.

As stated above, Mr. Graves married in 1871, the lady on whom his choice fell for a companion being Miss Alice Shinault, a daughter of J. L. and Penelope W. Shinault, of Mississippi, in which State Mrs. Graves was born February 26, 1853, and there reared. Her father died in that State in 1855, and her widowed mother moved to Texas in 1871, settling in Milam county, where she died in 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Graves have had born to them four children, as follows: Preston S., born October 10, 1872; Fred H., born April 8, 1884; Rufus W., born August 6, 1886; and Alice E., born July 18, 1891. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church, and he affiliates in politics with the Democratic party.

Mr. Graves has been remarkably successful in the last fifteen or twenty years. He came

out of the war without a dollar, and having entered it before he had received even the rudiments of an education, his start was made under the most adverse circumstances. He has succeeded by merit, by industry, economy and method.

Mr. Graves' ancestral history will be found in the sketch of his brother, Thomas H., which appears elsewhere in this volume.



CAPTAIN JAMES A. RUMSEY, a farmer of Williamson county, was born in Preston county, West Virginia, September 7, 1834, a son of George and Elizabeth (Sterling) Rumsey. The paternal grandfather of our subject, James Rumsey, was born in Ireland, but came to America when a young man, locating at Shepherdstown, Virginia. George Rumsey was born in that city, studied medicine under Dr. McLane, and was a physician and local Methodist Episcopal minister for sixty years. He moved to Goshen, Indiana, in 1834, where he was a leading politician; in 1848 removed to Arkansas, and in 1851 came to Williamson county, Texas, where he was the pioneer physician. His death occurred in June, 1889, at the age of eighty-four years. His wife departed this life many years before that time. They were the parents of six children, viz.: W. M., deceased in Caldwell county, Texas; Joseph A., a merchant of Middleport, Ohio; Mary, deceased in Robertson county, Texas, was the wife of James Rice, a Methodist minister; James A., our subject; A. M., a farmer and florist of Austin; and Elizabeth, wife of Dr. John McCarty, of Burnet county, Texas.

James A. Rumsey, the subject of this sketch, came to Texas in 1853, locating near





where he now lives, and the family were the first to locate in this neighborhood. He was first employed on the State capitol buildings at Austin seven months, after which he engaged in farming and stock-raising in this county. His father had the first and largest farm in the Salado valley, 100 acres of which was cultivated, and our subject remained on that place until the opening of the late war. In 1861 he entered the first enrolled company of State troops for drill purpose, of which he was elected Captain, but in 1862 resigned that position and enlisted as a private in Company A, Thirtieth Texas Cavalry, and served the two last years of the war as Brevet Captain of that company. Mr. Rumsey was a member of the Trans-Mississippi Department, served in Arkansas and the Indian Territory, was in many hard-fought battles, and was never absent from duty. At the close of the struggle the regiment had fallen back to Robertson county, where they disbanded. Mr. Rumsey still resides on a portion of the same tract on which he first settled, and now owns about 500 acres, 260 acres of which is cultivated. He has four tenement houses on his place, and is engaged in general farming. Since residing in Williamson county, our subject has followed carpentering, and has also done most of the surveying in this part of the country for the past eighteen years. He has always taken a leading part in Democratic politics, and in 1878 was elected a member of the sixteenth Legislature. During his term in that position he was appointed one of the committee on buildings and grounds, and assisted in forming the plans for the new capitol. He has also held many other offices.

Mr. Rumsey was married August 5, 1855, to Miss Jane Berry, who was born in Burleson county, Texas, October 22, 1839, a

daughter of John Berry, a native of Kentucky, a soldier in the Black Hawk war, who settled in this State before the Texas revolution. To this union were born ten children, eight of whom grew to years of maturity, viz.: Anna A., deceased, was the wife of John Riggs, and they had four children; Mary E., who was first married to William Biles, and they have one living child, and she is now the wife of Joseph Welch, of Enunclaw, Washington; Sally B., wife of John Pruitt, a farmer of Milam county; Fanny A. the next in order of birth; Lethia A., wife of James Blackwell, a farmer of Milam county; George E., engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county; Emza, a farmer of Milam county; and John, at home. The wife and mother died in 1883, having been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In October, 1887, Mr. Rumsey married Mrs. Huldah E. White, a native of Tennessee, but reared in Louisiana. She has one daughter by her former marriage, who is now the wife of J. J. Hair. Mrs. Rumsey is a daughter of William Baker, a native of Tennessee. Socially, Mr. Rumsey affiliates with the Masonic order, and religiously both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



**R**OBERT H. HICKS.—The subject of sketch is the junior member of the firm of Scarbrough & Hicks, merchants of Rockdale and Austin. Mr. Hicks is a native Texan. His parents, A. W. and F. M. Hicks, came to Texas in 1845 and settled in Lavaca county, where Robert H. was born and reared. His boyhood was passed on the farm and ranch and was occupied with labors and sports suitable to his



age. The free, open-air life which he enjoyed gave him a vigorous development and insured him a splendid physique well calculated to withstand the strain of the active business career which he has since led. His educational advantages were limited, being only such as were afforded by the poorly-taught local schools of the day. But he was a shrewd observer and possessed a bright, receptive mind, and gathered from observation a fund of practical information which has since been of great value to him in the dealings of daily life.

At the age of seventeen, when the Civil war had closed, and his family, like so many others throughout the South, was left without subsistence, young Hicks began his life-work in earnest, supporting not only himself, but helping to provide for a family of younger brothers and sisters. The cattle business being the only industry that then gave much hope of substantial returns he gave his attention to this and was engaged in it for about five years. In 1875 he gave up these pursuits and located at Rockdale, then but recently started. Here he became book-keeper in the mercantile establishment of H. P. Hale & Company. In January, 1883, after the death of General Hale, he took an interest in the business, the firm becoming Scarbrough & Hicks, and for ten years past he has devoted his time and attention solely to the interests of this house. Since 1889, the date of Mr. Scarbrough's removal to Austin, Mr. Hicks has had personal charge of the business.

This house is well known throughout central Texas, being one of the largest and financially the most solid establishments in this section of the State. The firm employs twenty clerks, uses both the cash and credit system and does an annual business of \$250,000. A

reputation for honest dealing, for goods of the best quality at the lowest living prices, for courteous clerks able to converse with buyers in any local vernacular, backed by ample means, vigorous brains, keen business foresight, tact and good management have made the mercantile house of Scarbrough & Hicks what it is. The firm annually handle a large amount of cotton and are leading stockholders in every progressive enterprise.

Mr. Hicks' name always heads every list gotten up for charitable purposes. If the cause is worthy he does not seek to know its creed but donates liberally and substantially as becomes one of his position and means. He has been a Trustee of the Rockdale public schools since the date of their organization and he has taken an interest in them second only to that which he has taken in his own personal matters. He is an upright member in and officer of the Baptist Church, giving it the warmest moral and financial support.

In 1879 Mr. Hicks married Miss Maggio Hall, daughter of John Hall, deceased. Miss Hall established and taught successfully for five years before her marriage the first permanent school in Rockdale. Intellectually her husband's equal, her finer qualities a foil to his more sturdy traits, the union has been one of unusual happiness that charms and cheers all who come under its benign influence. Three bright, intelligent children bless their home.



**A** C. JOHNSON, one of the industrious and thrifty Swedish-Americans of Williamson county, Texas, is the subject of this article. He resides on a farm four miles west of Taylor. His advent to the county dates January 15, 1878, at



which time he located on his present farm, having purchased it the preceding February. November 22, 1872, he first beheld Texas territory, Denison and Sherman being his objective points on first coming. He was there engaged in railroad work for several months, and was similarly employed at various other points in the State until 1877, working during that time for the Transcontinental, the Southern Pacific and the International & Great Northern. During the winter of 1877 Mr. Johnson was employed by W. Whipple near Austin. Having practiced the strictest economy all these years, our subject was enabled to save from his small earnings sufficient money with which to buy him a home. In looking about for a location he chose Williamson county, and cast his lot with her people. He bought 131 acres, and is now cultivating about one-half of it. He has it well improved, and has, besides his farming interest, a surplus of stock, both cattle and mules, and of the latter probably the finest span to be found in the State.

Mr. Johnson was born in Sweden, Sandszo, Saken district, Yonkoping Land State, September 22, 1845, son of John and Annie (Gowen) Larson. His father was a fisherman. Besides our subject, Mr. and Mrs. Larson had the following children: An infant, deceased; John August, of Henry county, Missouri; Charlotte Mary; Johanna Christina; Gustava Louisa, the wife of Peter M. Johnson; and Claus Otto, deceased.

November 22, 1871, Mr. Johnson embarked at Gottenberg, Sweden, via Hull and Liverpool, on the National Line steamer Egypt for New York. Proceeding to Chicago, he was engaged two months as a mason, helping to rebuild the city so recently destroyed by fire. He then went to his brother's

in Missouri, remaining there until March 6, 1872, when he was employed on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad, between Booneville and Sedalia. Six months later he went to Parsons, Kansas, whence about three weeks later he came to Texas, landing in Denison and Sherman as before stated.

Mr. Johnson was married in Austin, Texas, March 2, 1878, to Anna Matilda Carlson, the oldest of a family of six children, the others being Mary, Carl, Lizzie, Augusta and Gustave. The wife of our subject was born in the district of Skede, State of Yonkoping Land, Sweden, February 18, 1844. She left her native land in 1875, setting sail from Gottenberg on the 15th of September in that year, and arriving at Chicago, Illinois, on the 15th of October following.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three children: Albert Cornelius, born October 17, 1881; Alice Matilda, born January 14, 1883; and Ellen Constance, born July 29, 1884. The family are members of the Lutheran Church.



JOHN C. BARNETT, merchant, cotton factor and one of the men whose enterprise has helped to make the town of Lyons, Burleson county, was born in Lafayette county, Missouri, June 15, 1842. He is one of a family of nine children born to Josiah and Elizabeth M. Barnett, who were natives, the father of Hagerstown, Maryland, and the mother of Waverly, Missouri. On his father's side Mr. Barnett comes of German ancestry, the first settler of his name on this side of the Atlantic being his grandfather, a native German who came to America some time during the latter part of the last century and settled in Maryland.





There, in Hagerstown, John Barnett, the father of Josiah and the grandfather of John C. of this article, was born. He married Sarah Price, a native of that place, and a sister of Judge William Price, who was for many years a distinguished jurist of Baltimore, and by this marriage had a number of children, five of whom were sons, William, Arthur, Washington, John and Josiah, three of whom at a later date became citizens of Texas. Josiah Barnett went when a young man from Maryland to Missouri, where he met and married Elizabeth M. Clark, and subsequently moved to this State, settling in 1856 at Lockhart, in Caldwell county. He died at Brenham in 1867, during the yellow fever epidemic, in the forty-eighth year of his age.

Mr. Barnett's maternal ancestors came originally from Virginia and were among the first settlers of Kentucky and Missouri. His mother belonged to the distinguished Clark family of these two States, the most conspicuous members of which were Governor Clark, of Kentucky, and John B. Clark, Sr., and John B. Clark, Jr., of Missouri, both representatives in Congress from Missouri and prominent in State politics for many years. She was also a relative of Governor Trigg, of Kentucky: she survived her husband a number of years, dying at Lyons in 1883, near the sixtieth year of her age.

Josiah and Elizabeth M. Barnett had nine children, three of whom, two daughters and a son, died young and were buried at the old Mount Hope Presbyterian Church in Lafayette county, Missouri, before the family's removal to Texas. The others are: John Clark, the subject of this sketch; William S., a resident of Caldwell, Burleson county; Bennett H., who was drowned in the Nodaway river, northwest Missouri, while on a

visit there in 1863, being then in his twenty-first year; George W., who died of yellow fever at Brenham in 1867; Hugh C., a resident of Lampasas, this State; and Arthur, who lives at Lyons, Burleson county.

The eldest of this family, John C., the subject of this sketch, was in his fourteenth year when his parents moved to Texas. His youth was spent on the farm in Caldwell county. He received only a fair common-school education. In the spring of 1861 he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Company B, Twenty-fifth Texas Cavalry (Debray's old regiment), with which he began active service along the coast in this State. He was in the battle of Galveston, and later the engagements on Red river,—Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Yellow Bayou and Jenkins' Ferry. With the exception of a slight wound received at Pleasant Hill, he passed through the term of his service without injury, was never captured, and surrendered with his regiment at Houston, May 25, 1865.

His father having moved to Brenham during the war, Mr. Barnett went to that place and immediately turned his attention to the pursuits of peace, taking employment in the cattle business, which he followed for about three years from that date. Those were the days when the cattle industry in Texas attracted the attention of the most enterprising citizens of the State and absorbed most of its capital. Mr. Barnett drove north to Nebraska and Kansas and east to the then great cattle markets of Shreveport and New Orleans, and led the active, varied and interesting life of the "cow man," as he has since been pictured in the literature of the period.

In 1868 he began the mercantile business, taking charge of a business at Long Point, the firm being Craig & Barnett, which association continued there until the fall of 1880.



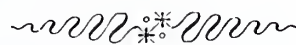
In October of that year, when it became known that a town would be established on the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway, then under construction at or near where Lyons now stands, Mr. Barnett came to this place and opened a stock of goods for Pampell & Harrison, of Brenham, thus becoming the first merchant of the town. In fact he settled here before there was any town, the town site not being surveyed until the December after he located. For two years he managed the business of his old employers, built up a large establishment for them, and then bought them out, and became interested also in farming and in the cotton business, having been for a number of years the principal cotton-buyer of this place.

Mr. Barnett has always been regarded as one of the representative men of Lyons, and has taken an active interest in everything relating to the welfare of the place. He is well known throughout this entire section, having for twenty-eight years handled cattle, merchandise and cotton in the northern part of Washington county and the southern part of Burleson, among the people of which locality his standing is of the best and his ability as a business man universally recognized. He has taken but little interest in politics, and has never held any office. He affiliates with the Democrats and gives an earnest and active support to the nominees of the party, but has never yet asked for himself the suffrages of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Barnett married Miss Mary Catherine Clark at Long Point, Washington county, in November, 1871, Mrs. Barnett being a native of Tennessee and an orphan girl. Mr. and Mrs. Barnett have had eleven children, eight of whom are now living, these being Josiah Clark, Mary Elizabeth, Bennett Henry, Malcom Scott, John Arthur, Winnie

Davis, Frank Roberts, and Catherine Ruth.

Mr. Barnett was made a Mason in 1869, since which time he has taken an active interest in the order. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias. The religious connection of his antecedents was with the Presbyterian Church, toward which he leans in belief.



**W**ILLIAM H. JENKINS.—The States of the American Union where family influence and the potency of family names have been most felt, are undoubtedly Virginia and South Carolina; and from these two States have come some of the brightest intellects, some of the bravest and worthiest men that have ever figured in the history of this country. Texas which drew in her early days from all the older communities for her citizenship, has had to make frequent acknowledgment to the States here named.

To South Carolina the subject of this sketch traces his ancestry on his father's side, and to Virginia his descent on his mother's side. The Jenkins were among the first settlers of South Carolina. They figured in the early wars, and as far as is known, they were brave soldiers and discharged their duties well. The paternal grandfather of William H. Jenkins and a son fell at the battle of King's Mountain, one of the decisive engagements of the Revolutionary period, while still others of his progenitors, William and Henry Robertson, were soldiers in the colonial war for independence and fought under Washington. His paternal grandparents, Jesse and Nancy Jenkins, were among the early settlers of Tennessee, moving there about the first decade of this century, where the grandfather was for many years engaged as a surveyor and was prominent in local land matters.



On his mother's side Mr. Jenkins' people came from Virginia. His grandfather, Herndon Green, was born in Virginia, and for many years was a resident of Tennessee, being a member of one of the largest and most prominent families of that State. His brother, Judge Nathan Green, was a distinguished jurist and a legal educator, and in addition to having served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of that State, probably prepared more young men for the profession of the law than any other man of his day and generation in the Southwest. He was the father of the lamented General Tom Green, who was long prominent in Texas history. Herndon Green was a soldier in the war of 1812, a planter of wealth and a man of sterling character.

James N. Jenkins, the father of William H. of this article was born in Winnsboro, South Carolina, but was reared in middle Tennessee, whither his parents moved during his childhood. He married Susan A. Green of Franklin county, Tennessee, about 1837, and eleven years later in 1848, died at the early age of thirty-six. His widow and three sons, William H., Jesse T. and Alpheus G., were taken into the family of Mrs. Jenkins' father, by whom they were brought at a later date to Texas. It was in 1854 that the first move was made by Herndon Green to establish himself on Texas soil. He came out that year at the head of a party made up of himself, his son Stephen T. and his three grandsons, the Jenkins brothers, with about thirty slaves, and he stopped for about one year at LaGrange. In 1855 he moved to Burleson county, where he purchased land and settled. The same year the remainder of the family was brought out, and a plantation opened where he located about two miles north of Caldwell. There he spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1878, at the age

of eighty-eight. Mrs. Jenkins died in this county about ten years later, aged seventy-two. Jesse T. Jenkins died here in 1881, from the effects of disease contracted in the Confederate army during the late war. William H. and Alpheus G. are still residents of the county.

William H. Jenkins was born at Winchester, Tennessee, March 31, 1838. He was sixteen when he was brought to Texas. After three or four years spent in this county, he was sent on account of ill health in 1859, to southwest Texas, where he secured a position as clerk in the mercantile house of Ulrich & Jones, of San Antonio. In 1860, he went in the interest of his employers to Parras, Mexico, where they had a branch establishment, and was there in their employ when the late war opened. He returned to Texas at the opening of hostilities, and offered himself for service in the Confederate army. He was accepted and put on frontier duty under General Henry McCulloch, and spent the first eight months of the war in service against the Comanche Indians along the Pecos, Neuces, Rio Grande, and the head waters of the Colorado river. He then returned to central Texas, and in October, 1861, enlisted in Company G, Eighth Texas Cavalry (Terry's Rangers), with which he went at once to the forces operating in Tennessee and Kentucky. Beginning with the engagements at Woodsonville, Kentucky, where General Terry fell, he was in the service continuously until the surrender, taking part in all the campaigns and engagements in which his command participated, the last being the fight on Haw river, near Guilford Court House, North Carolina, on April 14, 1865. He entered the service as a private; was later made Commissary upon petition of his regiment, and served as Commissary during the greater part of the war,









eighty years, and the father then made his home with our subject until his death, which occurred July 27, 1872. He was a hatter by trade, also taught school many years, was a member of the Methodist Church and the Masonic order, and was a Democrat in his political views.

J. W. Atkinson, the only survivor of his parents' seven children, was born in Franklin county, Georgia, September 10, 1829. In 1849 he came to Texas, and, after a short stop at Webberville, Travis county, located in Williamson county, and has lived in the vicinity of Florence since 1851. During the first five years after locating in this State he was engaged in farming, but in 1856 embarked in merchandising at Florence. After continuing that occupation thirty-two years, Mr. Atkinson retired from business. He owns 1,500 acres of agricultural land, 500 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation and the balance pasture.

In Tippah county, Mississippi, September 20, 1849, at the age of twenty years, our subject was united in marriage to Sarah M. Stanley. The Stanley family first lived in South Carolina, afterward in Tennessee, next in Mississippi, and then came to Texas. The father of Mrs. Atkinson now lives in Lampasas county, this State, being eighty-seven years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson have had thirteen children, viz.: John W., a merchant of Florence; William H., a physician of Killen, Bell county; Cordelia, wife of A. J. Hoover, a farmer and stockman also of that city; Benjamin F., a farmer near Florence; George C., a druggist of Florence; Emily E., wife of L. G. Babo, a merchant of Florence; Lucy P., wife of John M. Stryhorn, a physician of Bartlett, Texas; Lulu, deceased; James F., a druggist of Florence; Mattie E., wife of W. F. Casey, a merchant of George-

town; Ozias, a physician of Florence; May, deceased; and Isadore, at home.

In his political views, Mr. Atkinson supports the principles of the Democratic party, is a Royal Arch Mason, and has served as Worshipful Master in the Masonic order; was formerly a member of the Odd Fellows order, and is a Deacon in the Missionary Baptist Church. He came to this State before Florence was started, has been a potent factor in its development, and has gained the reputation of being a conservative and safe business man. He has always been foremost in every good work in his community.



JAMES HENRY FAUBION, a prominent business man of Williamson county, is a son of T. A. and Margaret (McSween) Faubion. The great-grandfather of our subject was a native of Holland, but located in Pennsylvania before the Revolutionary war. He afterward located on what was then known as the territory of Franklin, in Tennessee, and the family lived in Cocke county until just before the opening of the Civil war, when they settled in different parts of the country. The father of our subject was born, reared and married in that county, and remained there until 1865, when he located in Milam county, Texas. He now resides near Marble Falls, Burnet county, and is engaged in agricultural pursuits. While residing in Tennessee he followed merchandising. He is a staunch Democrat, and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Scotland, and came to America about 1820, locating in Tennessee. He raised his family in Cocke county. Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Faubion were the parents



of eight children, namely: James Henry, the subject of this biography; William, of Terrell, Texas; Sophronia, wife of J. F. Pangle, Tax Collector of Burnet county; Samuel H., Joseph and Alexander, of Marble Falls, Texas; Sallie, wife of J. B. Pangle, of Burnet county; and Fred, also a resident of that county. The wife and mother died in 1885.

James H. Faubion was born in Newport, Cocke county, Tennessee, August 20, 1844. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company C, Twenty-sixth Tennessee Infantry, and served until the surrender. With 13,000 others, he was captured at the battle of Fort Donelson, spent eight months in Camp Morton prison, was then exchanged, and the regiment was reorganized. Mr. Faubion then participated in the battles of Murfreesboro, Chickamunga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, the Atlanta campaign, returning with Hood to Tennessee, served in the battle of Franklin, and then went into the Carolinas, when the war closed. He held the position of First Sergeant at the time of the surrender.

Our subject came to Texas with his father in 1865, and in 1870 came to his present farm of 200 acres, seventy-five of which is cultivated. The place is located two miles south of Leander. In addition to his farming interests, he also carries a large stock of lumber, hardware and furniture. Mr. Faubion is a staunch Democrat in political matters, and in 1884 was elected by his party as Representative of the Seventy-eighth district in the Legislature and has held that position ever since, with the exception of one term. The district is now known as the Seventy-first, and composed of Williamson county. While in the Legislature Mr. Faubion gave much of his attention to the laws governing the public lands of the State, was instrumental in

framing the law throwing open the same to settlement, requiring the cattlemen to take out a regular lease, and also gave much attention to school matters. He assisted in establishing the present system of county superintendents. The convict question also became an important one during his term, he having opposed the present lease system.

Mr. Faubion was married near where he now lives, December 22, 1868, to Margaret C. Mason. They have had seven children: Earl M., Mary L., Addie B., Margaret M., Lola, Kate and Oran. The eldest son has charge of his father's store. Mr. Faubion is president of the Farmers' Insurance Company, is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is an Elder in the old-school Presbyterian Church.



JOHN MUNRO, of Williamson county, is a son of David and Isabella (Munro) Munro, natives of Ross county, Scotland, where the family have lived for many generations. The father of our subject was a blacksmith by occupation, but for many years had charge of the water works in the city of Dundee. His death occurred in the county of Ross, in 1877, and the mother died at the same place about 1872. They were the parents of five children: John, the subject of this sketch; Alexander, a farmer of Manitoba, Canada; David, railroad station agent at Motherwell, Scotland; James, deceased; and Collin, a blacksmith, of Liberty Hill, Texas.

John Munro was born in Dundee, Scotland, March 16, 1846, and early in life learned the blacksmith's trade. At the age of twenty years, he emigrated to America, landing at Galveston, Texas, in February, 1867, and for the following four years was engaged in





farming, near Austin, Travis county. He first began work at his trade, but as he was obliged to use charcoal instead of stone coal, as he had been taught, he was not able to satisfy himself and gave up the shop. Since 1871 Mr. Munro has made his home at Liberty Hill, where he was engaged in blacksmithing until 1883, and in that year embarked in the hardware business. He now carries a stock, amounting to \$2,500, and is also engaged in farming.

December 22, 1870, in Travis county, Texas, our subject was united in marriage to Jennie Ross, who came with her parents to America in the same vessel as did Mr. Munro, and who was raised within five miles of his home. They became acquainted after locating in Travis county. She was a daughter of William and Mary (Campbell) Ross. The mother is deceased, and the father still resides in Travis county. Mr. and Mrs. Munro have eleven children: Mary J., David, Jennie, Fannie, William, James, Maggie, John O., Lulu J., Dora L. and Horace Nelson. Politically, our subject affiliates with the Democratic party, is Treasurer of the Board of Directors of Liberty Normal and Business College, and a Trustee of the free school. In his social relations he is a Master Mason, and religiously is a member of the Methodist Church, in which he holds the position of Superintendent of the Sunday-school.



**J** B. SANDERS, a successful farmer of Burleson county, was born in Morgan county, Georgia, in 1829, a son of Simeon Sanders, a native also of that State. The elder Sanders was a teacher and followed his profession a number of years in his native State, was a fine surveyor and located a great

deal of land in western Texas. His death occurred in Hays county, this State, in his eighty-sixth year. The maiden name of Simeon Sanders' wife was Arpie Sims, she being a daughter of Charles Sims, formerly of Georgia.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanders were the parents of four children: Henry, William, J. B. and Nancy. Only the two younger members of this family are now living. The daughter was married to a Mr. Simington and resides now in Milan county, Texas.

J. B. Sanders was reared in Walton county, Georgia, whither his parents moved when he was young. He was brought up on the farm and received only limited educational advantages. In January, 1853, he located in Washington county, Texas, where, after residing a year at Brenham, he settled on a farm between that place and La Grange and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He followed this successfully up to the opening of the late war, when he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Company B, Sixteenth Texas Infantry, with which he served in the Trans-Mississippi Department, being in active service till the close of hostilities. He took part in most of the engagements west of the Mississippi river, among them Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Miliken's Bend, Jenkins' Ferry and other smaller ones. After the surrender Mr. Sanders converted what property he had into money and with the proceeds—about \$600—engaged in buying cotton. He was successful at this and by 1867 had made between \$3,000 and \$4,000. With this amount he purchased a stock of goods and began the mercantile business at Yegua in Burleson county. He was so engaged only a short time, when he again took up agricultural pursuits, which he has followed steadily and successfully ever since. He now owns a farm of 700 acres, lying in



the western part of the county, 250 acres of which is in cultivation and reasonably well improved.

November 25, 1859, Mr. Sanders married Miss Lydia Armstrong, who was born in Mississippi, and who was a daughter of John and Lydia Armstrong, the father being a native of Alabama, and the mother a native of Mississippi. The issue of this marriage was one son: J. D. Sanders. The wife and mother died in 1863, and six years later Mr. Sanders married Mrs. Nancy Ann Oldham, the widow of Thomas Oldham, and a daughter of Charles Leeper. This lady was born in Lawrence county, Alabama. By this union Mr. Sanders has had three children: Ida, who is now deceased; Dona, the wife of James Harvey; and Howell C.



**J**UD. C. WOMBLE, the present popular and efficient Treasurer of Burleson county, was born in Coosa county, Alabama, January 5, 1853, and is the youngest son of William H. and Eliza J. Womble, who are natives, the father of North Carolina and the mother of South Carolina. His parents were married in Alabama where they spent the greater part of their lives, the father dying there in 1857. The mother and children remained in Alabama till most of the children became grown when, in 1869, they came to Texas and settled in Burleson county. The mother died in Caldwell, this county, in 1890. Most of the children married in this county and settled here and elsewhere in the State. The eldest and youngest, Sallie J. widow of Rev. F. H. Carroll, and Sudie E. wife of Rev. James M. Carroll, reside in Lampasas; the

second and fifth, William T. and Jud. C., are residents of Caldwell, while the third, John E. lives at San Angelo, and the fourth, Henry G., died in Burleson county before the removal of the remainder of the family out from Alabama.

Jud C. of this article, being next to the youngest of the family, was sixteen when he came to Texas. His boyhood had been spent in Coosa county, Alabama, in the schools of which county and at the Baptist college located at Talladega, he received his education. His first employment on locating in this county was as a farm hand on Hooker's prairie. He was so engaged for three years when, in 1871, he secured a clerkship with Dean & Carroll, at Caldwell, and for three years following clerked in the mercantile business. He then formed a partnership with James L. Dean, and engaged in business for himself at Deanville in Burleson county.

In 1881 he disposed of his interest at Deanville, and returning to Caldwell just prior to the completion of the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe railway to this place, opened a general store here, out of which grew his present establishment, namely, groceries, guns and sporting goods. Later Mr. R. E. McArthur became interested in the business, the firm becoming Womble & McArthur standing so at this time. Messrs. Womble & McArthur carry a select stock of goods in their line and control a large trade.

In March 1888, Mr. Womble was appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of Treasurer of Burleson county. In November following he was elected to the same position, and two years later was re-elected, and in November, 1892, was again elected as his own successor. He has made the citizens of Burleson county an honest and capable officer, and that they appreciate his



faithful services is shown by the practically unanimous vote by which they have each time elected him to this office.

In December 1884, Mr. Womble married Miss Mary E. Oliver, a daughter of Dr. J. P. Oliver, an old and prominent physician of Burleson county, a sketch of whom appears under an appropriate title in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Womble have three children, Herbert, Oliver and Henry, and both are members of the Baptist Church.



**G**EORGE S. GRAVES, Justice of the Peace, merchant and Postmaster at Lilac, Milam county, was born in the town of Independence, Washington county, Texas, January 12, 1856, and is the youngest child of Dr. John H. and Julia Graves, of North Carolina, who moved to Texas in 1852, and six years later settled in Milam county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. An extended notice of them is given in the sketch of their eldest son, Thomas H. Graves, which appears elsewhere in this volume. The subject of this notice was raised in Milam county in the vicinity where he now lives. Lack of school facilities interfered with his early education but by industry and application on his own part he acquired some knowledge of books as he grew up and having determined on a college course he entered Davilla school at the age of sixteen, where he remained for five years, defraying his own expenses and taking the full course prescribed by the curriculum. His inclination leading him to indoor pursuits he began the mercantile business at Lilac in 1879, which, with the exception of two years, he has followed at

that place since. The same year when the postoffice was established at Lilac he received the appointment as Postmaster and has held it since. In 1890 he was elected Justice of the Peace of Precinct No. 5, and re-elected in 1892, which office he has since held. Mr. Graves has been moderately successful in a worldly way, but his chief value to the community in which he resides is not so much for the amount of his accumulations as for his services as a citizen. He has become to the people of his locality one of those indispensable factors always found in well regulated communities on whom everybody feels at liberty to call for advice in matters of law, business, politics and the like, and who in the course of a year does as much work gratuitously as many men do on handsome salaries. To his credit it may be said that he does such work cheerfully and does it well. He has been frequently solicited to run for office, but has never consented, simply accepting the offices he has held as a matter of accommodation to his friends and neighbors. In politics he is a Democrat and takes an active interest in everything of a political nature. Public enterprises—whatever will improve, elevate or adorn the society in which he moves and the country in which he makes his home—meet his cordial approbation and receive his prompt advocacy and assistance. The education of the masses through free schools provided or greatly assisted by the State government has always found in him a friend and a supporter and he has contributed from his own means in putting the schools in the locality where he resides on a permanent and advantageous footing, he and his two brothers, Thomas H. and Fred A., having erected a building near where they live; they have a good school maintained nine months in a year.





Mr. Graves married Miss Emma L. Ballard of Milam county, on September 15, 1881. Mrs. Graves was born in Hallettsville, Lavaca county, October 22, 1858, being a daughter of Joseph J. and Sallie Ballard, her father a native of Kentucky and her mother a native of Georgia. Her father was a representative of the distinguished Ballard family of Kentucky, being a great-grand-nephew of Bland Ballard, an associate of Daniel Boone in pioneer days in the "Blue Grass State." Joseph J. Ballard came to Texas in 1854 and settled at Hallettsville, Lavaca county, where he was prominent in business and politics until his death, which occurred in 1861. Mrs. Graves' mother, whose maiden name was Hillyer, was a descendant of an old Georgia family, being a daughter of Dr. John F. Hillyer, a prominent physician, Doctor of Divinity and Doctor of Laws of the State, and a niece of the eminent jurist, Jnnius Hillyer, and of Granby Hillyer of Atlanta, Georgia. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Graves, while on a visit October 6, 1883.

Mr. and Mrs. Graves have had born to them three children, two of whom are living: Rnth C., born March 24, 1885 and Ada E., born December 20, 1887.

Mr. and Mrs. Graves are members of the Methodist Church, of which Mr. Graves has been a Steward for a number of years.



**D**R. J. P. OLIVER, for twenty-six years a practicing physician of Caldwell, Burleson county, being, in point of residence, one of the oldest physicians in the county, is a native of Memphis, Tennessee, where he was born August 26, 1837. His parents were Thomas and Elizabeth Oliver,

who were also natives of Tennessee, where they were born early in this century. The father died when a young man, and the mother was twice afterward married, and is still living, residing now in Caldwell parish, Louisiana, vigorous yet in mind and body. She is a woman of great piety, having been a member of the Baptist Church for sixty years and faithful in the service of her Master.

James P. Oliver was mainly reared in Louisiana, whither his mother moved when he was young. He received but limited educational advantages, and at the age of twenty began to read medicine under Drs. John E. Wright and C. C. Merideth, of Columbia, Caldwell parish, Louisiana. He graduated from the medical department of the University of Louisiana in 1859, and immediately took up the practice of his profession in Moorehouse parish. Later he moved into Winn parish, where in 1860 he married. He was just entering on what promised to be a prosperous and very satisfactory professional career when the late Civil war came on. Like hundreds and thousands of others, he felt that his country had claims on him superior to those of a business or professional natnre, and in 1862 he entered the Confederate army, enlisting as a private in the Third Louisiana Regiment of Infantry, serving on detail duty as a physician and surgeon with this command until after the fall of Vicksburg, when he passed a successful examination, and thereafter served as army surgeon in the Trans-Mississippi Department until the close of the war. After the surrender he resumed the practice of his profession on his own account in Winn parish, Louisiana, and followed it there until November, 1867. At that date he came to Texas, and after stopping a short time in




Bell county located, December 24th following, at Caldwell, Burleson county, which place has since been his home. During his residence here Dr. Oliver has given his time chiefly to his profession, having also had some farming interests and been interested at different times in the drug business. But it is as a physician and surgeon that he is best known, and as a physician and surgeon that he has done the work for which he is best known. One could hardly have followed the profession as zealously as he has without having accomplished some solid results, not so much in the matter of finances alone as in the good for his fellow-beings. The doctor is one of those physicians who look on their profession to be used in alleviating the ills of the race. He has therefore never felt privileged to use it for purely personal ends, but has held himself in readiness with all the knowledge and skill he possessed to be called wherever his services have been needed. While he has accumulated some means he has nevertheless done a vast amount of charity work. He has profited by association with his brethren of the profession, and has been an interested member of their meetings. He has witnessed many changes in the practice of medicine during the twenty-six years of his pursuit of it in this State, and he has gone through hardships and sufferings, which would have broken down a less robust constitution, and which have not been without marked effects on his. It is related, however, with pride by many of the Doctor's old friends and patients that he has never failed them in times of distress, responding willingly to their calls at all hours and in all kinds of weather and, staying with them as long as his presence was needed.

March 15, 1860, Dr. Oliver married Miss

Catherine Ann Haddox, a daughter of Thomas J. and Mary Haddox, then residing in Winn parish, Louisiana. Mrs. Oliver was born in Wilcox county, Alabama, September 22, 1840, and was reared in her native place. Her parents moved to Texas in 1867, and died in Burleson county. Dr. Oliver and wife have had a family of eleven children, as follows: Frances R., who was married to W. H. Hundley, and with their four children, William, Katie, Edena, and Cora, reside in Caldwell; James R., who is a clerk in a mercantile house in Temple, Texas; Mary E., who was married to J. C. Womble, and with their three children, Herbert, Oliver, and Henry, reside in Caldwell; Katie M., who was married to J. H. Webb, and with their one child, Pauline, reside in Bryan, Texas; William H., a practicing physician of Merle, Burleson county; Tola J. and Frederick C., clerks at Caldwell; Edis T.; John P., deceased; and Charles B.

The religious connection of the family is with the Baptist Church, of which both the Doctor and his wife have been members for more than twenty years. Dr. Oliver is also a member of the State Medical Association and of the Knights of Honor, of which latter organization he is local surgeon. He is also the local examiner of four or five of the leading life and accident insurance companies of the United States, and interested in all beneficent work and, in proportion to his means, liberal in his contributions to charity.

 **W** N. WILSON, a member of a prominent and highly respected family who have long been identified with the interests of Bastrop county, Texas, dates



his birth in Mississippi, February 21, 1840. He came with his parents to Texas in 1845, and the following year they settled in this county. Here he grew up, receiving the benefit of a common-school education, and he still remains at the old home place, never having married. He was the sixth born in the family of thirteen children of J. L. and Martha (Sandifer) Wilson, the father a native of Georgia, born May 31, 1801, and the mother of South Carolina. His grandfather, James A. Wilson, a native of North Carolina, and of Irish descent, served through the Florida Indian war. By occupation he was a farmer. The subject of this sketch still has the rifle his grandfather carried through the Indian wars. J. L. and Martha Wilson were married in Mississippi in 1826, and lived on a farm in that State until coming to Texas, as above stated. Upon locating in Bastrop county, Mr. Wilson purchased 100 acres of land, to which he subsequently added 550 acres—all wild land. He settled on it and at once began its improvement and cultivation, and before he died had under cultivation 150 acres. His death occurred May 18, 1881. Before the war he was a slave owner. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. In public affairs he took a commendable interest, though he never sought official position. He was a Democrat all his life. Martha (Sandifer) Wilson was a daughter of Captain John Sandifer, a South Carolina farmer, who was Captain of a company in the war of 1812. He subsequently moved to Mississippi, where he died in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson had thirteen children, nine of whom grew to maturity, namely: W. J., a resident of Lee county, Texas; Sarah A., wife of J. B. Ormond, died, leaving five children; Caroline E., widowed the second

time, resides with her mother and brother; Cynthia L., wife of F. M. Browder, a Lee county farmer; W. N.; J. W., deceased; James M., engaged in farming in Lee county; Andrew J., a farmer in Bastrop county, and T. J., also a Bastrop county farmer. The mother of this family is still living. She was born March 28, 1809. Since 1828 she has been a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, she and her husband both being converted at the same time.

During the late war the subject of our sketch and two of his brothers were among the brave soldiers who went out in the Confederate lines. Two were wounded, but all reached home in safety. W. N. enlisted in March, 1862, in Company A, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, and was in the Trans-Mississippi Department, in Walker's Division. He was in all the principal engagements of the West, and during his four years of service he was only three months away from the post of duty, then being at home on furlough. At Milliken's Bend in 1863 he received a flesh wound in his left leg. At the close of the war he was at Hempstead, from whence he returned home. His brother W. J., was wounded in the knee by a shell, at Mansfield, from the effects of which he is still a cripple.

The subject of our sketch was reared a Democrat, and always voted that ticket until recently, when he fell in with the reform movement, and has since supported the People's party.



**F**REDERICK VOGELSANG, one of the largest land-holders and a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Milam county, is a native of Oldenburg, Germany,





where he was born in the year 1842. His parents were Jacob A. Vogelsang and Mattie Behrens, both of whom were also natives of Oldenburg, where they belonged to the respectable, well-to-do middle class. The father was well educated in the schools of his native country, and in early life engaged in teaching. He followed contentedly his calling until the government of 1848 was inaugurated and began the acts of tyranny, which rendered it odious to so many German citizens; when, in 1850, he left his native country and came to America. His destination was Texas, and the ocean voyage from Bremen, Germany, to Galveston, this State, was accomplished in the usual time and by the usual route of travel of those days. From Galveston he went to Houston, and thence to Austin county, where he settled on a farm and after a year's residence purchased land, and engaged extensively in agricultural pursuits. He died in Austin county in 1889, at the age of eighty-five. His wife died in the same county in 1878. They left four children: Dora, wife of H. Mier, of Austin county; Theodore, a resident of the same county; Ernest, of Milan county; and Frederick the subject of this sketch.

Frederick Vogelsang was eight years old when his parents came to Texas and settled in Austin county. His boyhood and youth were passed in this county. What little education he received was obtained at home, the schools in this State during his youth being poor, and he being of too delicate a constitution to attend even such as there were. At the age of twenty he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in March, 1862, in Company A, Twentieth Texas Regiment, with which he served during the remainder of the war. From 1865 to 1869 he resided on a farm in Austin county, and was engaged

in agricultural pursuits. From 1869 to 1877 he and his brother Ernest conducted a mercantile business in Austin county, and from 1877 to 1883 he followed farming and stock-raising in that county. In the last named year he and his brother Ernest came to Milan county, and purchased a large tract of land, consisting of about 3,000 acres, to which they added about 2,000 acres at a later date, and on which they settled and have been since engaged in farming and the stock business. This is one of the finest bodies of land in the county, all of it being susceptible of cultivation and lying convenient to market. Only a small part of it has as yet been put in cultivation, but all of it is under fence and on it is running a large number of horses and cattle. Mr. Vogelsang remains closely at home, and gives his attention to farming and the stock business.

In 1875 he married Augusta Schwarting, a daughter of John and Sophia Schwarting, and a native of Oldenburg, Germany. The issue of this union has been eight children: Ida, Freda, Ernest, Theodore, Hermine, Jacob, William and Helmuth.



**H**ENRY GREGG, deceased, the subject of this sketch, a former well-known citizen of Burleson county, comes of one of the pioneer families of Texas, being a son of John and Sallie Gregg, who came to Texas in 1840. The Gregg family was from Alabama, and at the time of its removal to Texas consisted of father, mother and six children. Washington county, then supposed to be the garden spot of the Republic, was their destination, to which point they were making their way by slow stages, travel-



ing by wagon, when at a point just east of the Navasota river, in what is now Grimes county, one of those sad experiences befell them not uncommon in those days and which brought sorrow to the little party of immigrants never afterward forgotten. The Indians, who were then in a general state of warfare with the whites, and who were lurking around in straggling bands seeking opportunities to do mischief, fell suddenly upon the Gregg party, and, after stampeding their stock, killed the mother and eldest son, Thaddens, and would have killed the remainder of the family but for a faithful old slave, who secreted the children in some undergrowth and kept them concealed until the savages retired. This old servant, Sarah, who afterward married a Mexican named Francisco, is still living, residing in the Brazos bottoms in Burleson county, being the only one now living of the ill-fated party. The father, bringing his five remaining children on, crossed the Brazos river and settled in Burleson (then Milam) county, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was for many years an honored citizen of this county. Of his five children who came with him to this county, Lucinda married a man named Black and died in Texas many years ago; Mary was married to John Cade and died in Burleson county; John entered the ranging service when a young man and was killed somewhere on the frontier; Martha was married to a Mr. Harris and died in Texas; and Henry is the subject of this sketch.

Henry Gregg was born in Alabama, October 3, 1836. He was about four years old when he was brought to this county. He was reared on a farm and followed farming pursuits all his life.

February 20, 1866, he married Miss Fannie J. Grant, of Burleson county, she being a

daughter of Joseph F. and Amanda M. Grant, who were early settlers of this county. Mr. Gregg resided most of his life on the Brazos bottoms, where he had large farming interests, to which he gave his exclusive attention. He was a man of plain tastes and industrious habits and succeeded in accumulating considerable property. His death occurred August 25, 1886, being caused by an explosion in a gin. He left surviving him a widow and eight children: John, who was born March 5, 1867; Frances Amanda, who was born August 31, 1868, and died July 23, 1883; Josiah G., born August 6, 1872; Sallie, born October 22, 1876; Mary Elizabeth Tyler, born April 23, 1878; Lucy, born February 28, 1880; Annie, born March 3, 1882; Rowena, born December 1, 1883; and William Henry, born September 11, 1886. Only one of these is married. John married Miss Mattie Beaumont, of Burleson county, June 2, 1889.

Mrs. Gregg's parents were born in Mississippi, the father February, 1824, and the mother October, 1830. The mother's maiden name was Farquhar, she being a daughter of James L. and Hulda Farquhar. The mother died in Burleson county, Texas, October 10, 1855, leaving three children: William F., now a resident of Rogers, Bell county, Texas; Fannie J. (Mrs. Gregg); and Elizabeth Tyler, who was married to William Lupton, of Burleson county, and died here December 21, 1876. Mrs. Gregg's father married a second time, his second wife being Miss Laura Goodwin, then of this county, originally of Virginia, and by this union had seven children: Green and Ruben, residents of Burleson county; Thomas, who died here a few years ago unmarried; Annie, now the wife of Dr. J. H. Jenkins, of Caldwell; Josiah, who lives at Hartley, Hartley county, Texas;



Winnie and Archie. Joseph F. Grant died at Bryan, this State, July 22, 1872, whither he had gone on business.

Henry Gregg was a good citizen, and his death was a genuine loss to the community where he resided. He was a sincere friend and a faithful and affectionate husband and father.

The religious connection of Mr. Gregg's family was with the Presbyterian Church; that of Mrs. Gregg's family was with the Baptist Church, to which Mrs. Gregg has belonged for many years. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Gregg has assumed the management of his affairs and has succeeded as but few succeed; notwithstanding she has obstacles thrown in her way that many men have the good fortune to escape.



**L**EWIS L. CHILES.—Though no costly shaft marks his last resting place and his name can not be found on the map of the county, the memory of Lewis L. Chiles will long live in the annals of this portion of Texas, because of his honorable services as a citizen when those services were most needed, and because of the splendid character which he left at his death.

He was a native of Virginia, born and reared in that great State which has been so fruitful of men of sterling worth, and to which Texas has many times had occasion to make acknowledgment for some of the bravest and best of her citizens. But little is known of his early years. He was left an orphan at a tender age, and, leaving his kinspeople when he was about eighteen, he became permanently separated from them and never knew much of them. He was one of a large family, however, and in the distribution of

these among relatives presumably fared no better than orphans usually do when bereft of parents at so early an age. He abandoned his native State in 1828 and started west for the purpose of making his own way in the world, stopping about a year in Tennessee, where he had some distant relatives living, after which he came on to Texas. He was still under age when he came to this section, but was an energetic and self-reliant youth, and, having heard much of the "far Southwest," came in search of some of its pleasures and fascinating experiences. Like most of the young men of those days, he had no permanent place of abode for some years after coming to Texas, spending part of his time in the settlements in the eastern part of the country and part of it in the settlements along the Brazos river. He found irregular employment with various surveying expeditions, and in this way helped at different times to locate a large number of claims for settlers. He served also with the "minute men" as often as his presence was needed to assist in keeping off the attacks of Indians; and finally, when the climax of the troubles with Mexico was reached, moved by patriotic ardor and a zeal for the cause of liberty, he shouldered his musket and marched with the devoted band of patriots under Houston to repel the invasion of the Mexican army under Santa Anna. He was in the battle of San Jacinto, and thus helped to win Texas independence and render glorious for all time the name of Texas and Texas arms.

For a number of years, both before and after the settlement of the trouble with Mexico, he made frequent trips through what is now Burleson county, during one of which he was the guest of the family of James Hitchcock, living on the Yegua near the Washington county line. Here he met and





later married Emily, one of the younger members of this family, who shared the joys and sorrows of this life with him for twenty-odd years. His marriage led to his permanent settlement in Burleson county, which occurred about 1838 or 1839, this being about the time the seat of justice for "old Milam county" was moved from Nashville to the town of Caldwell. He was one of the first settlers at the new county seat, and probably opened the first store at this place. He was actively identified with the history of the place from the date of his settlement here until his death some sixteen or eighteen years later. His marriage took place June 6, 1842. After that date he assumed the serious duties of life with steadiness and equanimity, and became one of the thrifty, industrious and public-spirited men of this locality. He was engaged for several years in merchandising in Caldwell, and later in farming and stock-raising on a limited scale, at which pursuits he accumulated some means which he used with the facilities then at hand for educating his children. He never held any public office, but was active in local and State politics, being a great admirer and life-long friend of General Houston. Judge R. E. B. Baylor, who was then prominent in politics and church matters, was another of his old-time friends, as were most of the public men in this part of the Republic. Although a devoted follower of General Houston's personal political fortunes, he opposed annexation in 1845-'46, believing that Texas had territory enough for a separate government, and would in due time become sufficiently strong financially to support a government of its own; but he acquiesced in the decision of the majority, and when the secession question began to be agitated in 1860-'61 he was as much opposed to Texas

withdrawing from the Union as he had been to her entering it. When, however, his native State of Virginia withdrew and cast her lot with the Confederacy, he no longer stood out against the movement, but entered with spirit into the plans of the South, and until his death, May 29, 1864, he gave to the "lost cause" the best support of which he was capable, being beyond the age of military duty. He was fifty-three at the time of his death and reasonably well preserved in body and mind. He had led an active life, especially in his earlier years; had been brought in personal contact with the rugged forces of nature as well as of society, but these left no serious marks on his character. When he married and assumed the responsibility of a family his conduct became that of the husband and father solicitous for the welfare and good name of those under his charge, and till the day of his death his chief concern seemed to be for these. In 1856 he became converted and united with the Baptist Church at Caldwell, of which he was soon elected Deacon, and held this position as long as he lived. Next to his love for his family and his church, Texas,—the home of his adoption and whose history he had helped to make,—stood supreme in his affections. He was cast in the mold of the pioneer and was well trained in the schools of experience. Brave, honest, generous and hospitable, with a scrupulous regard for what he conceived to be right and a broad charity for the failings of others, of sound intelligence on the common affairs of life, he was well formed for the life he led.

Emily Hitchcock, who, as above noted, became the wife of Lewis L. Chiles, was a native of Georgia, born December 13, 1824, and was a daughter of James and Betsy Hitchcock, who were natives of Virginia,



where they were married July 31, 1799, and moved thence to Georgia, settling near the South Carolina line. Mrs. Chiles was one of a large family of children, most of whom were reared in Georgia, where they married and settled, never becoming residents of this State. One brother, however, Andrew J. Hitchcock, came to Texas at an early day, enlisting in Fannin's command, with which he was captured at Goliad and fortunately made his escape. He had a checkered career, having been twice to South America, several times to Mexico, and an early immigrant to the Pacific coast. He died at Denton, this State, in 1887, near the eightieth year of his age, losing his life at that place by the burning of a hotel. Sarah Ann Hitchcock, another sister of Mrs. Chiles, was married to Arthur Eldridge, who was the first District Clerk of Burleson county. Mrs. Chiles' parents died in this county, being well advanced in years when they came out and settled here. Mrs. Emily Chiles is one of the pioneer women of Burleson county and one whose virtues entitle her to mention in this monograph of her deceased husband. Under the preaching of that eminent pioneer preacher of Texas, the Rev. William Tryon, she was converted and baptized in girlhood, and, uniting with the Baptist Church, led a consistent Christian life until her death. She had been reared under the old regime in Texas and learned to keep open house in the style of the early days; she was free with all she had, a dutiful housewife and faithful friend and neighbor.

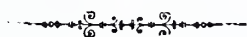
Ten children were born to Lewis L. and Emily Chiles, but six of whom are living, most of whom, however, became grown and married and left children in this county. Their eldest child was a daughter, Virginia, who was married to R. A. Higgason, since

deceased, the issue of which union was eight children, as follows: Mary, the wife of Judson Harris; Virginia C., the wife of Albert Snyder; Maggie, the wife of John McCowen; Ruben, who died at the age of three; Vara; May; Velma and Lee, the last two of whom died young. The second child of Lewis L. and Emily Chiles was Lizzie, who became the wife of Isaac Winston, and died leaving two children, James and John. The third child of Lewis L. and Emily Chiles was James, who was born in 1846, enlisted at the age of fifteen in the Second Texas Infantry, and died at Vicksburg, Mississippi, during the late war. The fourth child was a daughter, Barbara, who died at the age of sixteen while at Baylor College at Independence. The fifth was Mary L., who was married to W. T. Womble, by whom she has had ten children: William C., Judson, Drew, Lewis, Charles (deceased), Lucy, Ethel, Leonora, Stanley Grey, and Clyde Carroll. The sixth child of Lewis L. and Emily Chiles was William Tryon, of whom mention will be made further on. The seventh was Dabney; the eighth, Thomas C., who married Lulie Fielder, by whom he had one child, and died in October, 1880, at the age of twenty-three, his widow being the present wife of Dr. H. H. Darr, of Caldwell. The ninth child of Lewis and Emily Chiles was Baylor, and the tenth was Emily, who was married to Charles S. Williams, and died leaving two children, Mabel and Marye Dabney.

William Tryon Chiles, the sixth of this pioneer family and the eldest male member of it now living, was born December 12, 1854, in Caldwell, Burleson county, where he was also reared and educated. He was variously engaged up to 1886, at which time he was elected Constable of Caldwell precinct, which office he held for four years, when he was



elected Clerk of the District Court, being the present incumbent of that office. Mr. Chiles' character and conduct, officially and otherwise, are well known to the citizens of Burleson county, and need no comment in this connection. He bears an honored name, and is a worthy representative of it. Respecting his personal or family history, one further fact may be recorded. January 31, 1883, he married Miss Bettie Heslep, daughter of W. N. Heslep, an old settler of Burleson county, she also having been a native of this county. She died January 24, 1890, at the age of thirty one, leaving two children, Bernice and Madaline.



**H**ON. R. H. WATERS, ex-Representative of Milam county, a progressive and prosperous farmer residing near Burlington, traces his ancestry to South Carolina, where the line ascending for three generations finds its source, so far as now can be determined, in one Colonel Phil Waters, a gallant soldier who served under Washington in the French and Indian wars, and under the same distinguished soldier in the Revolutionary struggle. Phil Waters bore a conspicuous part in these wars and by his activity incurred the especial hatred of the French and British commanders against whom he served. It is preserved as one of the traditions of the family that at the surrender of Fort Necessity, where Colonel Waters killed two French soldiers and three Indians, a special demand was made on Major Washington, commander of the Colonial troops, by the French commander for Colonel Waters, but that Major Washington refused to honor the demand and Colonel Waters escaped the vengeance of the wrathful

Frenchman to do valiant service for the colonies in their subsequent revolt against the mother country. The military trappings of Colonel Waters are still in existence, being now in the possession of a sister of the subject of this notice, Mrs. T. M. Bragg, residing in Greenville, Alabama. Colonel Phil Waters had among other children, a son named Wilkes, who was born in South Carolina and who married a Miss Manning, by whom he had three children, the eldest of whom was a son, Phil B., born in Newberry district in 1808. Phil B. Waters went to Alabama when a young man, locating in Butler county, where he met and married Sarah Ann Womack and became the father of eight children, four sons and four daughters, the sixth of whom, being the youngest son, was Richard H., the subject of this sketch.

Richard H. Waters was born in Butler county, Alabama, in 1851. He was reared in his native county, and educated at the Greenville Collegiate Institute. He came to Texas immediately on leaving school, and took up his residence on the line of Freestone and Navarro counties, where for three years he engaged in farming. Returning to Alabama, he began the study of law under a distinguished lawyer of his native State, and after eighteen months spent in preparation, was admitted to the bar before Judge John Henry. Another year was spent in preparation for the practice of his profession, after which he returned to Texas and located at Fairfield, Freestone county. He shortly afterward became a candidate for the office of County Attorney, of Freestone county, but was defeated. He then abandoned the law, and going to Robertson county, clerked about a year for his brother there in the mercantile business, when, in 1882, he took





up his residence in Milam county, where he has since lived. For ten years he has been engaged in farming, stock-raising and merchandising. He now owns an interest in a ranch of about 620 acres lying on the north line of Milam county, and an interest in a mercantile business and gin at Burlington, and in recent years he has been somewhat active in politics. Mr. Waters received the Democratic nomination for the State Legislature from Milam county in 1890, was subsequently elected and served during one session. He made a good representative, and his career met with the general approval of his constituency. He was a member of the following committees: Privileges and Elections, Agricultural Affairs, Stock and Stock-raising and Counties and County Boundaries. He favored the railroad commission law, made an effort to rid the State of Johnson grass by introducing a bill declaring it an offence to allow the grass to go to seed on one's place, and by request introduced a bill providing for the annulment of the marriage bonds in cases of insanity.

Mr. Waters has exercised a wide influence in the community in which he resides, giving liberally of his time, means and personal effort to the building of the material, social and moral interests of that community.



**M**RS. MARTHA ALLEY, widow of G. W. Alley, Georgetown, Texas, is the only one of her father's family now living. She is an old settler of Williamson county, very intelligent and popular, and is as highly respected as she is widely known. She is the daughter of James and Martha (Seals) Knight. The latter was a widow when she married James Knight, her

first husband's name being Benjamin Smalley, and he and his wife had several children, one of them being named William, and he, when about thirteen years of age, was captured by the Delaware Indians at some place not now known in Pennsylvania. At this same time his father, Benjamin, was killed in an encounter with the savages. William lived with his captors until he became a man and seemed to have lost all desire to return to his people, but after many years returned to civilization and lived with them until his death. He, William Smalley, rendered great service afterward in carrying a flag of truce under General Wayne, as he could talk many dialects of the Indian language. He was gone many months and much fear was entertained that he would not return, but he was absent no longer than he thought necessary. He lived for a time near Clarksville, Ohio, and later moved to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he died. He cared for his widowed mother, and raised a large and respected family. William Smalley married Prudence Leggett, and one of his children was Rev. Freeman Smalley. The latter came to Texas on a visit in 1824, and while visiting at Pecan Point on Red river, preached the first protestant sermon ever preached on Texas soil. He was a member of the Missionary Baptist Church. Later he settled in Williamson county, where he died, and he was the first cousin of our subject. James Knight, our subject's father, was a native of Maryland, a farmer by occupation and a very worthy man. At an early day he removed from Maryland to Miami county, Ohio, and opened a large farm on the river below Troy. He went to Illinois, Vermilion county, near Danville, in 1829, and opened a large farm there, and from thence to Texas in 1847, to Brushy, Williamson county. He was with



and a personal friend of General Harrison, and took part in some of his battles, one of them being the battle of Tippecanoe, on the Tippecanoe river, near LaFayette, Indiana. He was a pioneer of the pioneers in Ohio, Illinois and Texas. On account of his well known goodness of heart he was appointed Trustee of the poor, and discharged every duty in a most faithful and praiseworthy manner. James and Martha Knight had eight children, namely: Dr. William Knight, born April 28, 1799, and died February 11, 1851. He was an eminent physician for those days and a more honest, honorable or worthy man was seldom, if ever seen. He came to Brushy in 1847, and to Georgetown in 1848. His wife was Mary A. Baugh, and their children were as follows: James, the present Postmaster of Georgetown; Martha, now Mrs. Westley Bullock; Caroline, wife of Cyrus Hubank; Joseph B.; Eliza, now Mrs. James Montgomery; Nancy, widow of W. K. Foster. The second child born to James and Martha Knight was Rachel, now Mrs. Joseph Adamson; John S.; Benjamin; Martha, our subject; Dr. D. Fortner; Nancy, wife of Dr. J. Anderson, father of Ed. R. Anderson.

Martha (Knight) Alley, the subject of this sketch, was born October 16, 1814, near Troy, Ohio. She is a highly respected pioneer of the county. None know her but to do her honor, as her life has been blameless and exemplary, and its influence in the hearts of those who know her speaks more eloquently than any complimentary words we might pen. Her first marriage was to Samuel Makenson, who died in 1850, leaving six children, namely: Hon. William K.; D. R., J. K., deceased in 1874; Sophronia, Mrs. Archie Hart; Eliza, now Mrs. H. F. Rosewood and S. B. Her second marriage was in November 1852, to G. W. Alley, who died in Colorado, Novem-

ber 19, 1879, aged sixty-four. By this marriage there were two children, namely: G. L. and Helen, wife of W. F. Steele, with whom our subject resides. Mr. and Mrs. Steele have one child, Mattie Lou. Our subject since her girlhood has always been a consistent and active member of the Baptist Church. Her father, James Knight, was born July 10, 1776, and died January 10, 1848. His wife, Martha (Seals) Knight was born in 1870, and died October 2, 1844. They were good, old pioneer people, ever in the home of the poor, in the ranks of the toilers, in the hearts of all lovers of humanity. They were the ideals of honor, gentleness, truth, fidelity and love.



JOHN SCOTT, the veteran photographer of Rockdale, was born in the little town of Savannah, Hardin county, Tennessee, on January 21, 1846. His parents moving to Texas when he was about seven years old (1853), he was reared mainly in Bastrop county where they settled. He grew up on the farm and stock range and received such schooling as the meager educational advantages of that day afforded. At the age of seventeen he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in January, 1864, in Company G, Second Texas Infantry with which he served during the remainder of the war along the Gulf coast in the vicinity of Galveston, at which place his regiment disbanded at the close of hostilities. When the war was over he returned to Bastrop county and accompanying his parents in 1865 settled on a farm near Lexington in what is now Lee, then Burleson county, where for two years he worked on the farm and managed his father's interests. In 1867 he returned to Bastrop



county and for a year filled the position of Deputy District Clerk of that county under John C. Buchanan. The year 1868 was spent in the stock business driving beef cattle from interior Texas to New Orleans—after which he returned to the farm, where he remained until the winter of 1869. He then began clerking in the mercantile business at Lexington and for three years was engaged at this in that town and at Giddings, being first with the firm of More & Montgomery, later with Montgomery alone, then with A. Deicher and lastly with C. P. Vance. In January, 1872, he formed an acquaintance with an itinerant photographer, named F. M. Hall, then stopping at Heslep's store in Burleson county, and becoming interested in the art of photography decided to learn it and turn his attention to it for a livelihood. He picked up the rudiments of the art under Hall and located sometime during the summer of that year at La Grange, this State, where he engaged in the picture business until the spring of 1874. In February of that year, on the completion of the International & Great Northern Railroad to Rockdale he came to this place shipping his tent and fixtures in on the first regular train that reached the new town. He immediately opened a gallery and thus became the pioneer photographer of the place. With the exception of a year and a half he has resided here continuously since and has made pictures by the thousands for the people of this locality. He has devoted his time almost exclusively to the picture business never having had any other business pursuits and never having held but one office, that being the office of Assessor and Collector of taxes for the town of Rockdale, which he filled by appointment and election for about five years. He administered the affairs of his office like he makes

pictures, according to his own ideas of how and when the thing should be done, but his conduct met with general approval and the town was greatly benefitted financially by the vigorous, impartial and conscientious manner in which he discharged his official duties.

For what he is as an artist Mr. Scott is indebted to himself. His advantages have been limited and on account of the size of the town in which he is located and the sparsely settled condition of the country around, his patronage has never been large enough to permit of his purchasing the appliances and adding the accessories which go so far towards facilitating the work of picture-making and rendering a studio attractive; but in all the essentials of the art; a knowledge of physiognomy, the manipulation of the lights and shades and a keen perception of the artistic, he is a past master and will hold his own with any country photographer in Texas. He has never made a great deal of money out of his business; not nearly as much as he has deserved to make nor as much as he might have made, had he been possessed of a greater love for the "almighty dollar," but he has made a reasonably good living; has rendered the service which all require at some time in life to be done—some many times—namely, the preservation of the "human face and form divine," and has added to the common fund of aesthetic knowledge and the sources of refined pleasure by the teaching of correct ideas and the inculcation of good taste respecting the truly artistic in form and color.

In May, 1874, Mr. Scott married Miss Amanda Cordelia Parsons of Kosse, Limestone county, Texas, Mrs. Scott being a native of Utah county, Utah. The issue of this union has been ten children now ranging in age from one to eighteen years and about equally divided as to their sex. Their names





are: Vivia Eva, Louisa Adeline, Clara, James Kennard, Grace, Alma, John, Cecil Homer, Robert Aubrey and Susie.

Mr. Scott has not wandered far from the scenes of his youth and many of his relatives, brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews, live in this general section of the State. The following facts respecting his family history will form a suitable close to this brief sketch of himself.

His father, James Scott, was a native of Georgia, where he was born June 19, 1804, and where he was also reared. He was a lawyer by profession; settled at Savannah, Hardin county, Tennessee, when a young man and was for a number of years engaged in the practice of the law at that place, attaining some distinction and becoming Judge of the judicial district in which he lived. He abandoned the law after coming to Texas on account of the condition of his eyes and subsequently followed farming and stock raising. He met with moderately good success; lived an upright life and died in the enjoyment of the esteem of those by whom he was surrounded. He had had very good educational advantages in his youth and amassed by reading and observation considerable information. In his younger years he was active in politics, at all times a man of strict morality and temperate habits. He died at his home in Lee county, in December, 1889.

Mr. Scott's mother bore the maiden name of Adeline Moore McGinnis. She was a daughter of Christopher H. McGinnis and was born in Hardin county, Tennessee. She is still living being a resident of Lexington, Lee county, this State.

Ten children were born to James and Adeline (Moore) Scott, of whom John the subject of this notice was the third in age. The others were: Jerome, who died in infancy;

Martha, the wife of Newton J. Russell, of Stephens county, Texas; Zenobia, the wife of Lock K. Billingsley living near Pearsall, Frio county, this State; Eliza, the wife of Virgil Waldrop of Stephens county; James P., of Dallas; Alonzo, who died young; Fannie, the wife of Yoakum Campbell, of Los Angeles, California; May, the wife of William G. Warren, of Lee county; and Mittie, the widow of J. R. McKnight, of Lexington, Lee county.

The religious connection of Mr. Scott's people is generally with the Christian Church and in politics they have been Democrats from time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. Mr. Scott adheres to the traditions of the family in political matters but has never been a member of any church organization. He believes however in religious influences and good schools and libraries and all the other humanizing, civilizing and christianizing factors it is possible to have in a community. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in which he has held most of the offices in the subordinate lodge, and also to the Knights of Honor in which he has filled all offices up to and including that of Vice-Dictator.



**B** T. DENNIS, one of the leading farmers and business men of Williamson county, is a son of John and Sarah (Hood) Dennis. The grandfather of our subject, Allen Dennis, was a prominent farmer in East Tennessee, and was one of the leading men in public affairs in McMinn county, that State. The Hoods are also an old Tennessee family, the grandfather, Robert Hood, having passed his life in Polk county. John Dennis was born and raised in McMinn



county, and was married in Polk county in 1853. At the opening of the late war he enlisted as a private in Company C, Forty-third Tennessee Regiment, took part in the siege of Vicksburg, and died of measles during that struggle. In 1866 the mother of our subject married John Mounds, who died in 1881, and she afterward came with her family to Texas, locating with a son in Fannin county. She died in 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Dennis were the parents of five sons: B. T., our subject; George B., of Fannin county; LaFayette, whose residence is unknown; Frank, of Burnet county; John D., a resident of Fannin county. By her last marriage the mother had three children: Joseph, of Grayson county, Texas; Martha, wife of Charles Ross, of Indian Territory; and James, of Burnet county.

B. T. Dennis was born in McMinn county, Tennessee, November 25, 1855, and was reared to manhood in Polk county, that State. He began life for himself at the age of fifteen years, working as a farm laborer twelve years; and, in 1878, drove a team for his uncle to San Saba county, Texas. After residing a short time in that county he came to Williamson county, in March, 1879. After marriage Mr. Dennis farmed on rented land in Burnet county until 1884; in that year he purchased and made four crops on a farm there, and then came to his present place of 500 acres. His land borders on North Gabriel, nineteen miles northwest of the county seat of Georgetown, and 120 acres is under a fine state of cultivation. The farm is now worth \$5,000.

In Burnet county, October 24, 1880, Mr. Dennis was united in marriage to Sallie E. Ottinger. They have seven children: Daisy, Cora, Sarah, Pearl, Byron L., Mattie M., Roy and Carl. Mr. Dennis affiliates with

the Democratic party, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is truly a self-made man, having started in life with comparatively nothing, and now owns one of the finest farms in Williamson county. He takes an active interest in everything for the good of his county, and is respected by all who know him.



**M**AJOR A. B. SUMMERS, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born in Rutherford county, Tennessee, March 8, 1834, a son of Alfred and Lucinda (Summers) Summers, natives of North Carolina. The parents were of the same name, but no relation. The father, a carpenter and millwright by trade, served through the Mexican war, and in 1847 came to Cherokee county, Texas, where he followed his trade and farming. Mr. and Mrs. Summers were the parents of ten children, viz: Ellen, deceased in Tennessee; Malinda, wife of J. E. Wells, of the Panhandle of Texas; C. L., deceased, was a soldier in the late war; A. B., our subject; William, who was killed at the battle of Mansfield; Jane, deceased, was the wife of A. Yost, and they had three children; Rebecca, who has never married, and resides with her brother-in-law, A. Yost; Thomas J., deceased while a prisoner of war in Illinois; Mary E., widow of J. G. Lee, resides on a farm in this county; and the youngest child died in infancy. The father departed this life in 1868, and the mother afterward made her home with a daughter in this county until her death, in 1872.

In 1847, at the age of thirteen years, A. B. Summers, our subject, came with his father to Cherokee county, Texas. He remained under the parental roof until twenty



years of age, after which he followed freighting until the opening of the late war. He walked seventy-five miles to enter the Confederate service, and June 13, 1861, enlisted in Company C, Third Texas Cavalry, was consigned to the Trans-Mississippi Department, ordered to Missouri, where he took part in the battles of Wilson creek and Pea Ridge. He then participated in the battle of Corinth, Mississippi, continued on the east side of the river during his four years of service, and took part in all the principal battles and skirmishes. The company was mustered in with 114 men, and at the surrender only fourteen of the original number were left. The command was first under General Bragg, then Joseph E. Johnston, and last under General Hood. At the second battle of Elkhorn, Mr. Summers received a slight wound in the left arm, received a flesh wound in the hip in the battle of Corinth, and at Kenesaw mountain was shot through the body. The minie ball entered his left side and lodged near the skin on the right side, where it was removed by a surgeon. He was disabled by this wound two months. At the close of the struggle the command was on Jackson and Vicksburg road, on Black river, went to Vicksburg, where he received his parole from General Canby, and then returned home. Mr. Summers followed freighting until 1873, and in that year purchased 210 acres of his present farm, then raw land, in the Colorado valley. He has added to his original purchase, and has 150 acres of his place under a fine state of cultivation.

Mr. Summers was married March 7, 1873, to Miss Elizabeth Yost, who was born in Bastrop county, Texas, January 10, 1853, a daughter of Frank and Elizabeth Yost, of German descent. They came to Texas about

1839, locating in this county, where they died a few years ago. Our subject and wife have had six children, five now living—Charles F. attending school; William N., Mary E., Thomas J. and Jessie L., at home. The wife and mother died March 13, 1892, having been a devoted and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Summers affiliates with the Democratic party, but never aspires to public office.



**J** F. GILLEY.—Hays B. Gilley was a native of Georgia, born in the historic year of 1812; Hancy Hall was born in North Carolina in 1815. Both were reared in Alabama and in the town of Montgomery, that State, were married in 1834. One year later, in 1835, they came to Texas and settled at the mouth of the Brazos river, where the town of Quintana now stands. Following this date Mr. Gilley resided for a number of years in southern Texas, where he was engaged at his trade as a carpenter and later as a minister of the gospel. He was thus a builder in a two-fold sense, and in each a most capable workman. He drew the plans and specifications for a number of the first business houses erected at Galveston, where he was a resident at an earlier day, being well known to most of the earlier settlers of the lower country. About 1845 he turned his attention to the ministry, joining the Methodist conference and from that time on until his years on earth ended, labored zealously in the cause of Christianity. For a long time he did itinerant work, but was later given regular charges, having in this way preached to many churches in central and southern Texas. He died at Caldwell in 1884, ripe in years and in Christian





grace and experience. His widow is still living, though well advanced in years and feeble in health. She has been a member of the Methodist Church for more than a half century and is a most devout Christian woman.

Ten children were born to Hays B. and Nancy Gilley, as follows: John J., Henry H., William H., Sarah, Nathan, Mary, Martha, James A. and Anna. Of these John J. died in the hospital at Quitman, Mississippi, during the late war, being a member of the Second Texas Infantry, and William H., who was a member of the same command, was captured while in a hospital at Oxford, Mississippi, and it is supposed died in a northern prison, as he was never heard of afterward. The eldest daughter of the family, Sarah, was married to A. D. Gallion and died in 1874. Nathan died in infancy. Mary was married to J. J. Noel and died in 1884. Martha was married to D. H. Noel and died in 1873. Henry H. and James A. are farmers, residing in Burleson county, and Anna was married to T. E. Elsie and lives in north Texas.

Thomas F. Gilley, sixth son and youngest child of Hays B. and Nancy Gilley, was born in Washington county, Texas, June 27, 1858. His parents moving to Caldwell when he was an infant, his boyhood and youth were passed in this place and on a farm in this county, where he received such educational advantages as were afforded by the schools when he was growing up. Having been reared mainly on the farm he took up farming when he began doing for himself and until 1882 was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. Having always shown a fondness for mathematics and an aptitude for books he took up the study of book-keeping, which he mastered and in the year last

named quit the farm and began book-keeping for the firm of Jenkins & Jenkins, lumber merchants of Caldwell, and has been with them continuously since. He retains his farming interests, however, owning a well-improved place of about 370 acres in the vicinity of Hookerville, over half of which is in cultivation, which he leases. For ten years past Mr. Gilley has stuck closely to business pursuits and in fact has never held any public office, but occasionally takes an active interest in State and local politics, being a Democrat "in whom there is no variableness or shadow of turning." He has also been connected with some local enterprises and always stands ready to do his part in fostering those interests that tend to the general welfare of the community in which he lives.

February 24, 1892, Mr. Gilley married Miss Samantha King, of Caldwell, a daughter of J. M. and Mary King, and the eldest of a family of five children. Mrs. Gilley was born in Burleson county, December 19, 1869. Mr. and Mrs. Gilley have one child, a boy, Thomas Sion.

JESSE HARRIS, deceased.—The subject of this notice was a native of Greene county, Georgia, where he was born in 1809. He was reared in that county and there, December 20, 1838, married Miss Louisa C. Rainwater, with whom he settled on a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1853. He then came to Texas and located in Washington county and, putting out at interest what money he had, engaged in overseeing one year, when he rented land and engaged in farming there till 1870. He moved that year to Burleson county, where he purchased 650 acres of land on which he settled and began farming for him-



self. He died on this place in 1878. He was an industrious, good citizen, a consistent Christian gentleman, a kind and accommodating neighbor and a devoted husband and father.

Mrs. Louisa C. Harris, widow of Jesse Harris, was born in Pendleton district, South Carolina, April 30, 1821. Her parents were John and Martha Rainwater, who were natives, the father of Pendleton district, South Carolina, where he was born in 1790, and the mother also of South Carolina, where she was born in 1796. The parents of John Rainwater were Solomon and Ruth (Felton) Rainwater, of Scotch origin. Solomon Rainwater was a South Carolinian by birth and died in his native State in 1815, at about the age of fifty. The children of Solomon and Ruth Rainwater were: Diliex, who married Richard Phillips, a Baptist minister; Job; John; Rebecca, who was married to Aaron Oliphant; Rachel; Rhoda, who was married to Lasen Cox; Abner; Asenith, who was married to a Mr. Morehead, and Elisha. Martha Rainwater was a daughter of Richard and Mary (Parker) Adams, whose children were: Martha (Mrs. Rainwater), Parker, Annie, Rebecca, Clarissa, Richard and James. John and Martha Rainwater's children were: Mary Louisa, who died young; Addison Franklin; Louise C. (Mrs. Harris); William Jasper; John Bayless Earl and Ibsan Hainesworth, twins; Francis Marion; Pulaski Lafayette; Adeline Amanda, who first married Oliver Carrington, and after his death a Mr. Hosca; Mary Clementine, who married William Hall, and George Milton.

John Rainwater died in Greene county, Georgia, July 22, 1836. He had enjoyed good educational advantages in early life and was a teacher for many years. After his death his widow took charge of his estate

and managed it with success until her death. Mrs. Louise C. Harris was reared in Greene county, Georgia, and received a fairly good education in the schools of that county. On the death of her husband in 1878 she took charge of his interests and has since managed them successfully. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Harris are: Celeste Missouri, who was married to Adolph Testard, and is now deceased; Martha T., who is the widow of Benjamin Delamater and now matron of Baylor Female College at Belton; Eliza Julia, wife of Judge Alexander W. McIvor, of Caldwell; John W. deceased; Lucy Eldridge, wife of James H. Hill; James Addison, deceased; Adaline Clementine, who died young; Adoniram Judson; William Jesse; Mary Ellen, who first married Judson H. Hill, and after his death John Hill; and Georgia Lou, the wife of F. F. Bledsoe, of Lampasas.

The parents of Jesse Harris were Wilmot E. and Kate (Morris) Harris, who were natives of North Carolina. They moved to Georgia early in this century, where they died, the father in 1846 at the age of seventy, and the mother in 1852, well advanced in age. They were the parents of eight children: Elizabeth, who married Joshua Cannon; Patience, who married L. B. Jackson; Jesse; Benjamin T.; Charles and James, twins; Simon; Frederick; and Mary, who married John Eidson. Jesse Harris was for a number of years a member of the Baptist Church, of which Mrs. Harris has also been a life-long member.

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**C**APTAIN JOHN J. MONCURE, a prosperous farmer of Bastrop county, was born in Caroline county, Virginia, March 16, 1829, a son of William A. and



Lucy A. (Gatewood) Moncure, natives also of that State. The Moncure family are French Huguenots, and fled from France to Scotland about 1608, and from there the ancestor of the present family came to America, in the person of Rev. John Moncure. He was born in the parish of Kinoff, now county of Kincardine, Scotland, in 1709 or 1710, emigrated to Virginia in about 1733, and died March 10, 1764. His wife, *nee* Frances Brown, was a daughter of Dr. Gustavus and Frances (Fawke) Brown, natives of Maryland. The Fawkes are a noted family of England. Rev. Moncure engaged in teaching in Northumberland county, studied theology, returned to England, and received ordination at the hands of the Lord Bishop of London. After returning to Virginia he became assistant minister to Rev. Scott, rector of Overwharton parish, Stafford county, Virginia, and after the latter's death he became his successor. He was the father of five children: John B., born July 13, 1744, died in infancy; Frances, who married Travers Daniel; John, born January 22, 1746, married Ann Conway; and Jean, born in 1753, was married in 1775 to General (also Governor) James Wood, of Virginia, and died in 1822. The second son, John, was the father of five children: John; William; Agnes, who married John Robinson; Edwin; and Ann, who was twice married, to Thomas and Richard Garkins. The eldest son, John Moncure, married Alice Peachy, and they had nine children, viz.: John, Alice P., Frances A. (who married John G. Hull), Thomas G., Hannah (who became the wife of Michael Wallace), William A., Richard C. L., Edwin R. and Henry L. Thus the first born son of each of the early families was called John, and this form still continues. The grandfather of our subject was the fourth in a di-

rect line from Rev. John Moncure, and was born November 1, 1772. He had nine children, of whom William, the father of our subject, was the third in order of birth. He was born November 27, 1803, and died in March, 1862. He was married March 4, 1828, and had thirteen children, eleven of whom grew to years of maturity, namely: John J., our subject; William Cassins, who was married in 1860, to Allenia M. Cottrell; Thomas J., was twice married, first to Fannie Washington Moncure, and afterward to her sister, Margarete Moncure; Anna George, became the wife of Daniel W. Norman; St. Leger Landon married Lucy George Oliver; Enstace Conway married Fannie M. Irby; Mary Alice became the wife of Samuel Burk; Rubynetta married William H. Glascock; Cassandria Oliver became the wife of William H. Lyne; Richard Travers married Ann J. Gaskins; and Lucy, who died unmarried.

Hon. William A. Moncure, the father of our subject, was educated in William and Mary's college, Virginia, and in early life was engaged in farming. He served his native county as Representative to the State Legislature for four years, and was then elected to the State Senate, but resigned that position after serving a few terms. He next served as Auditor of Public Accounts until his death, having devoted the most of his life to the public. Mr. Moncure's brother, Hon. Richard Cassins, served as President Judge of the Virginia Court of Appeals from 1852 to 1864. He received the honorable degree of LL. D., at the Washington and Lee University, in 1872. He was the father of Hon. John C. Moncure, of Louisiana.

Captain John James Moncure, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the schools of Hanover county, Virginia, under Rev. Fox. At the age of nineteen years he engaged in





agricultural pursuits in his native State, and in 1852 came to Texas. After landing at Galveston, he taught school for a time in Harris county, and left that county for the purpose of joining the rangers, but did not serve in that struggle. In the latter part of 1852 Mr. Moncure located in Bastrop county, where he was engaged in farming, stock-raising and surveying until about 1862. In that year he was elected to the position of Sheriff, but resigned that office before the expiration of his term of service. In 1861 he joined Captain Hysmith's company, Parsons' regiment, of which he served as Second Lieutenant until the re-organization, when he resigned his commission and joined the Thirty-fourth Texas Cavalry, Company I, under Colonel A. W. Terrill, in the Trans-Mississippi Department. Mr. Moncure was elected First Lieutenant of his company, participated in the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, was constantly engaged in battles and skirmishes for thirty-two days, and his last engagement was at Yellow Bayou. After remaining home a short time he returned to his command, and was with Colonel Terrill in his defense at Morgan's Ferry, Atchafalaya, Louisiana. Mr. Moncure was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain, and later held the rank of Major. They disbanded at Corsicana, Texas, and after returning home our subject at once resumed farming and stock-raising. He owns 1,200 acres of fine land, and has also given his two eldest children each a farm. He has the finest orchard in the county, consisting of fifteen acres, devoted to pears, peaches, plums, apples, etc. He also raises standard-bred horses, Durham cattle and other stock. In 1866 Mr. Moncure was elected as Representative of Bastrop county, but was removed from office with ex-Governor Throckmorton. Since that time he

has never accepted a political office, although he has been frequently nominated to positions of trust.

In 1855 he was united in marriage with Julia Deckard, a native of Tennessee, and a daughter of Benjamin and Julia (Henderson) Deckard. Mr. and Mrs. Moncure had nine children, only three of whom lived to years of maturity: Bettie Alice, deceased, was the wife of Robert A. Jeffries; Anna G., wife of Walter Norman, of Smithville; and Cassius Lee, who married Miss Hattie Nuckols, and resides in Bastrop. The wife and mother died March 5, 1870, having been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In 1871 Mr. Moncure married Ann Deckard, a sister of his former wife, and they have had seven children: John, deceased; Mary Wise, deceased; Lucy George, deceased; Charlotte; Jemmie; Walter N. and Benjamin S. Both Mr. and Mrs. Moncure are members of the Missionary Baptist Church, and the former also affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Bastrop Lodge, No. 244.



JAMES W. BRANCH, a successful farmer of Williamson county, Texas, was born in Williamson county, Tennessee, December 24, 1816, a son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Hurst) Branch. The father was raised and married in North Carolina, where he also raised his family, consisting of six children. Two daughters are still living: Eliza, aged ninety years, is now Mrs. Sledge, and a resident of Florence; and Elizabeth, now Mrs. Culp, of Obion county, Tennessee. The Branch family were prominent in North Carolina in the early days, and John Branch, one of the first Governors of the State, was a near relative of the father of our subject.





*James M. Page*



James W. Branch, the subject of this sketch, was deprived of a mother's care, when only one year old, after which he lived with relatives for a time, and finally made his home with a married sister until reaching manhood. In 1840, in company with his brother, Nicholas, he came to Texas, locating first in Shelby county. Five years later, in the early part of 1846, he arrived in Williamson county, where he first purchased 525 acres of land, but now owns only about 300 acres, 175 acres cultivated.

In Shelby county, in 1842, Mr. Branch was united in marriage with Nancy Matthews, who was born in Mississippi. She was early left an orphan, and came to Texas with her brother-in-law, Rev. M. H. Jones. To this union were born nine children, namely: John Wesley, engaged in the sheep business, near Sherwood, Texas; Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of J. L. Rucker, of Georgetown, Texas; Eliza J., wife of A. H. Arnold, of Columbia, Missouri; Virginia A., wife of Crockett Colyer, of Georgetown, Texas; Sarah F., deceased; Martha K., deceased; James A., of Gabriel Mills, this State; Nicholas, of Sherwood; and Joseph, at home. The wife and mother died April 16, 1876, and two years afterward Mr. Branch married Minerva Spears. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party; socially, is a Master Mason; and religiously a member of the Methodist Church.



JAMES W. PAGE, a well-known and public-spirited citizen of Burleson county, Texas, is deserving of some personal consideration on the pages of this work. For twenty years he has been a resident of this State, coming here to better his financial

condition, soon after the close of the late war. Traveling overland with teams, he landed in Brazos county in 1874. A year later he came to Burleson county and rented land for four years on the Brazos river bottoms. He then bought a partially-improved place, and settled where he now lives. He has since made more elaborate improvements on this place, now having a comfortable and attractive home, a good orchard and other conveniences.

Mr. Page was born in Alabama, March 11, 1829, and was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving a common-school education. He remained under the parental roof until he reached his majority, and January 22, 1851, he was married. Soon after his marriage he engaged in merchandising, remaining thus occupied until the opening of the war, doing a fairly successful business. He, with others, laid aside his business and entered the Confederate ranks, enlisting in 1861 in Company E, Second Alabama Regiment, being consigned to the southeastern department of the Confederacy. With his command, he was stationed along the Mobile railroad, guarding the property and keeping the road serviceable. After being on duty eleven months, he was obliged, on account of ill health, to return home. For some time he was laid up with rheumatism. Subsequently he served with the conscript bureau, but finally was discharged by the medical board, and returned home. At the close of the war he found himself completely broken up. He then returned to farming, in which occupation he has been engaged ever since.

Since coming to Texas, Mr. Page has been connected with various organizations, having been prominently identified with the Grange. He first joined the College Grange in Brazos county, in 1874, of which lodge he was Wor-






thy Master. Afterward he was a member of Concord Grange, in Burleson county, of which he also served as presiding officer, and at present he is a member of the Caldwell Grange. He helped organize the Burleson County Co-operative Association, and helped establish a store at Caldwell, of which enterprise he is still serving as director. He also helped to organize the Texas Wholesale Store, of Galveston, of which he is likewise a director; and among those who organized the State Grange Fair & Manufacturers' Association, held at McGregor, none took a more active part than Mr. Page. Also his name is among the list of directors of this enterprise. Another organization with which he is connected is a company that in 1890 built an oil mill at West Caldwell, and of this, too, he is a director. In politics, he is an uncompromising Democrat, and is somewhat of a leader, standing squarely on the Democratic national platform, as enunciated at Chicago in 1892. He is an admirer of Mr. Cleveland, and, in the absence of a wider personal experience in public matters, imposes implicit confidence in the wisdom and integrity of the chief magistrate of this nation and his advisers; but in no sense of the word is he an office-seeker. He was elected Justice of the Peace of his precinct in 1882, and served two years. Mr. Page cast his first vote for President of the United States for Franklin Pierce, in 1852, and has voted steadily with the Democratic party since. He was made a Mason in April, 1851, and in 1854 took the Royal Arch degree. In religious belief, he is a Universalist, while his wife is a consistent member of the Missionary Baptist Church.

Of Mr. Page's parentage we record that his father, Allen Page, was a native of Georgia, and that his mother, Sarah (Wright) Page, was born in South Carolina. Allen Page

was a farmer all his life; was a strict member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a Royal Arch Mason. He was assassinated by highway robbers in Alabama, in 1859. His wife survived him until 1890, and died at the old home in Alabama. They had seven children, the subject of our sketch being the eldest, and the only one of the family in Texas. He had two brothers in the war. One, Kinchin R., was killed at Vicksburg; the other, Haskew, passed all through the war and has since died, at his home in Conecuh county, Alabama.

James W. Page married Miss Catherine L. Hawthorn, who was born in Alabama, December 18, 1831, daughter of Joshua and Nancy C. Hawthorn, who were for many years residents of Conecuh county, Alabama, where the father died, in 1866, aged fifty-six, and the mother in 1846, aged thirty-six. Mr. and Mrs. Page have had three children, all natives of Alabama, viz.: Jefferson F., who died in 1882; Henry R., a Burleson county farmer; and William B., in the employ of the Santa Fe Railroad, and residing at Dallas, this State.

 **A** G. GANNAWAY, a prominent merchant of Florence, is a son of Norvel and Elizabeth (Sanders) Gannaway.

Two brothers of that name came to this country from England before the Revolutionary war, locating in Virginia. One of their descendants, Gregory Gannaway, the grandfather of our subject, located in Buckingham county, that State, where Norvel Gannaway was reared to manhood. The latter was there married, later lived for a period in Wythe county, next in Lawrence county, Alabama, and in the early part of 1830 located in Talladega county. Mr. and Mrs.

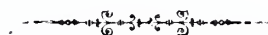


Gannaway were the parents of eight children, viz.: Sanders, who died when a prisoner of war; Martha, deceased; Rhoda, widow of a Mr. Houston, of Calhoun county, Alabama; Mary, widow of a Mr. Roberts, of Talladega county; A. G., our subject; James, of Calhoun county, Alabama; Sarah and Senah, deceased. The wife and mother died about 1840, and the father afterward married a Mrs. Gore. They had one son, William L., who resides near Oxford, Alabama. This wife is also deceased. Mr. Gannaway is a farmer by occupation, and is a prominent worker and a devoted member of the Methodist Church. His sister, Rhoda, married a Mr. Brownlow, and their son was the noted W. G. Brownlow, who was prominent as a Legislator in the national Congress.

A. G. Gannaway, the subject of this sketch, was born in Wythe county, Virginia, December 29, 1825, and grew to manhood in Talladega county, that State. At the opening of the Mexican war he enlisted as a private in Captain Hugh Cunningham's company of infantry, took part in the siege of Vera Cruz, and served one year. He then taught school for about two years, and in the fall of 1852 located on his present farm, near Florence, Williamson county, Texas. Mr. Gannaway taught school in this city until 1873, since which time he has followed mercantile pursuits, first as a clerk for J. A. Montgomery several years. In 1878 he opened his present store, and in addition to this also owns a farm of 140 acres, which he rents.

Mr. Gannaway was married in Talladega county, Alabama, January 27, 1852, to Margaret C. Whittenberg. They have had seven children: Ella, deceased; Sarah A., wife of T. B. Hoover, of Bell county; Mary A., now Mrs. B. S. Hoover and a resident of Florence; James L., of Austin; Norvel A., who

resides near this city; Annie M., at home; Thomas S., of Florence. Mr. Gannaway affiliates with the Democratic party, and has served as County Commissioner one term, and as Justice of the Peace for twenty years. In his social relations, he is a Royal Arch Mason, has served as High Priest of the Chapter, and is now Secretary of Florence Lodge, and is also Treasurer in the I. O. O. F., in which he has held other high offices. He is a Steward in the Methodist Church.



**G** W. TURNER, another one of the enterprising farmers and prominent citizens of Bastrop county, Texas, is found in the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Turner was born in Tennessee, March 13, 1835, and when quite young removed with his parents to Alabama. In November, 1849, the family came to Texas and located in Bastrop county, where he has since lived. He was reared to farm life and had limited educational advantages, remaining a member of the home circle until the opening of the late war. In 1861 he enlisted in Company D, W. H. Parsons' brigade, in the Trans-Mississippi Department. The most of his service was in Arkansas and Louisiana. His first battle was at Cotton Plant. After that he was in many important battles and did a great deal of skirmishing. In all his service, however, he was never wounded or taken prisoner. He was in Texas on the Little Brazos at the time of the surrender, when, the forces disbanding, he returned home.

In the fall of 1866 Mr. Turner engaged in mercantile business at Hogeys, in this county, and eighteen months later removed his stock to Alvin Creek, same county, where he continued in business until 1875, succeed-



ing fairly well. Then he sold out and turned his attention to farming, in which occupation he has since been engaged. His first farm he sold in 1880, and bought another, which, after raising three crops on it, he also sold. Then he bought his present farm, 500 acres, which had some improvements on it at the time of purchase. He has since built his commodious residence and made other substantial improvements, and now has 115 acres under cultivation, renting some of it and hiring help to cultivate the rest. Cotton and corn form his chief crop. Soon after coming to Elgin he opened a butchering and saloon business, and was meeting with success when his entire establishment was burned. This was a total loss, as he had no insurance.

Mr. Turner's parents, Dr. J. L. and Juliana (Sessums) Turner, were born in Tennessee and North Carolina respectively. Dr. Turner was a prominent physician of his day, and in addition to his professional duties he also carried on agricultural pursuits, having a number of slaves. He was born in September, 1799, and died in 1870. His wife survived him until 1876, when she, too, passed away. They had a family of fifteen children, three of whom died young. The others are as follows: William, who died in 1857; Della, wife of H. Olsnp, both being deceased; Sanford, who was killed in the army; Harriet, who married J. Olsnp, both now deceased; Wade H., who died in 1857; C. W., the subject of this sketch; Mary, wife of J. Wilks, both deceased; Henry H., a resident of Taylor, Texas; Juliana C., widow of H. L. Harkins, resides in Lee county, Texas; John B., of Hunt county, this State; W. E., of Lee county; and Ann E., widow of Ezekiel Wilson, Lampasas county.

The subject of our sketch has been twice married. In May, 1867, he wedded Miss

Mattie E. Litton, a daughter of John Litton. Her father came to Texas when this State was a Republic, and was one of the Indian fighters of early times. He was engaged in the stock business here and also farmed some, dying about 1858 and leaving a large estate. Mrs. Mattie E. Turner died in 1868, her only child dying about the same time. November 22, 1871, Mr. Turner married Mrs. Kate H. Hamilton, widow of B. M. Hamilton. By her first husband she had one child, Minnie L. Hamilton, now the wife of W. J. Jackson. Mrs. Turner's father, A. A. Tisdale, a native of South Carolina, came to Texas in 1847 and located in Bastrop county, where he spent the rest of his life engaged in farming, and where he died in 1860. His wife lived until 1890. Following are the names of Mr. and Mrs. Tisdale's children: Mary M.; J. E.; Nannie N.; Sara E.; Mattie; William H., who entered the Confederate army and was killed in battle at Vicksburg; Lu R.; Jane; Virginia; and Kate, who was born in Texas, October 11, 1848. Mr. and Mrs. Turner have had nine children, one of whom died young. The others are all at home and are as follows: William S.; Mattie E.; Legrand S.; Callie; Nash; Wallace W.; John O.; and Tom Green.

Mr. Turner affiliates with the Democratic party.



JAMES P. MAGILL, one of the well known and respected citizens of Williamson county, was born in Lincoln county, Kentucky, March 5, 1825, a son of Samuel P. and Nancy (Shackleford) Magill, the former of whom died in Burnet county, April 5, 1865, and the latter in February of the





same year. At the age of twenty-one years James P. came to Texas, and while on the the road from Houston to Austin the first battle of the Mexican war occurred, on the Rio Grande river. Shortly after arriving in this State he joined Captain H. E. McCulloch's company of State rangers, which had been mustered into the United States service; was elected Second Lieutenant, and served in that capacity until the close of the struggle. The company was ordered to the scene of war two different times, but never succeeded in getting beyond the Rio Grande, as they were needed to protect the border. After the close of hostilities Mr. Magill spent two years in his native State, was there married, and then returned to Texas. He located in what is now Burnet county, where he remained for twenty years after the organization of the county, and served as County Clerk eight years. He then resigned that position, and in 1863 represented the counties of Burnet, Llano and San Saba in the Legislature. During his residence in Burnet county, Mr. Magill devoted much of his time to the State ranger service, having had command of a company of scouts. In 1865, in a fight with the Indians in Burnet county, he was wounded in the lower left side by an arrow, but, as it was then winter, he was heavily clad, and the arrow passed through thirty-two layers of cloth, and ranged backward to the back bone. In 1869 our subject purchased his present farm of 800 acres, 200 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. He has served one term as Commissioner of Williamson county, and during that time the present handsome and commodious court house was built.

Mr. Magill was married in Wayne county, Kentucky, March 5, 1850, to Angelina S., a daughter of David and Rachel Evans. The

parents came to Texas late in life, and the father died in Lampasas county, January 28, 1866, and the mother at the home of our subject, in Burnet county, March 6, 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Magill had fourteen children, twelve of whom grew to years of maturity, namely: Sarah, who died in Burnet county, December 29, 1865; Mary, wife of Robert Hanna, of Williamson county; Julia, wife of J. N. Mason, also of this county; T. W. Magill, of Georgetown; James P. Magill, a resident of Los Angeles county, California; Ella, wife of John T. Bryson; Samuel David Magill, of Williamson county; J. D. Magill, also a resident of this county; S. H. Magill, at home; M. B. Magill, of Georgetown; H. E. Magill, of Burnet county, Texas; Nannie, at home; Susie, at home; and Katy, who died October 27, 1892, aged seventeen years. Mr. Magill votes with the Democratic party. He was made a Mason in Wayne county, Kentucky, in 1850, served as Secretary and Worshipful Master of Valley Lodge at Burnet, and has taken all the Chapter degrees. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church.



**J** C. CASKEY, of Williamson county, Texas, is a son of Samuel and Nancy A. (Coffey) Caskey. In 1768 the grandfather of our subject, John Caskey, emigrated with his wife and two children from Ireland to Charleston, South Carolina. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. The father of our subject was born in Lancaster district, that State, in 1839, was married in 1810, and in 1816 the entire family moved to Maury county, Tennessee, where they were among the first pioneers. The grandfather died in that place, and the father afterward moved to Lincoln county, Tennessee,



where he died in December, 1839. He was a farmer and mechanic by profession, and was a Democrat in his political views. The mother of our subject was of Scotch-Irish descent, and was raised in Lancaster district, South Carolina. She died in Florence, Texas, in 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Caskey were the parents of nine children, namely: Esther, widow of a Mr. Wells, of Giles county, Tennessee; J. C., our subject; James J. and Wiley, deceased; Samuel W., of Maury county, Tennessee; Lucinda, now Mrs. Meadows, of Wilson county, that State; Margaret, R. B. and Martha, deceased; and Emma, now Mrs. East. of Wayne county, Tennessee.

J. C. Caskey, the subject of this sketch, was born in Lancaster district, South Carolina, August 13, 1814. He went to Tennessee with his parents, and lived in Manry and Giles counties until September 26, 1851, when he came by wagon to Texas. He located the land on which the town of Florence is now situated, and at one time owned as many as 1,350 acres. He is one of the pioneers of this section, has been active as a trader in real-estate, and has done much to develop the farming land of Williamson county. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and held the office of Justice of the Peace, and during the late war served as County Commissioner. Mr. Caskey has been a member of the Christian Church for forty-five years, in which he has served as Elder many different times.

He was married in Manry county, Tennessee, July 30, 1834, and they had the following children: William J., of Salado, Texas; Nancy A., wife of Dr. P. H. Adams, of Florence; George D, a farmer two miles east of this city; Sarah V., deceased, was the wife of B. S. Gray; Elizabeth H., wife of T.

D. Whittenberg, of Florence; Mildred A., deceased, was the wife of James T. Wales; Mary L., wife of P. M. McCaskell, of Florence; Martha M., wife of W. H. Cabell, also of this city; and John S. S., of Bell county, Texas. The wife and mother died in this city November 28, 1891, and since that time Mr. Caskey has lived with his children.



### CAPTAIN JOSEPH C. ROWLAND.—

Robert Rowland, a native of Virginia, a brave and adventurous pioneer, settled in Tennessee some time during the latter part of the last century, where he took part in laying the foundation of the great commonwealth which sprang from the colonies planted by Sevier, Robertson and their compatriots. Later, probably about the first of this century, he moved to Alabama, taking part in the early settlement of that State. He died there well advanced in years. He had a number of sons, one of whom was Joseph, born in Tennessee in the year 1785, who accompanied his father to Alabama on his removal to that State, being then a lad in his 'teens. Joseph Rowland married Tempe Austin in Morgan county, Alabama, and settled in that county, which he made his home for many years. He was a frontiersman in spirit, fond of the chase and full of adventure. He served in the Creek war of 1836 and took a lively interest in the affairs then going on between Texas and Mexico. He had had his mind on Texas for a number of years, and finally, in 1837, moved to this State, heading for the Brazos country and making his first stop at the old Mexican town of Tenoxtitlan, located in what is now the northeast corner of Burleson county. He resided at this place until 1840, when he



moved out on the old Nacogdoches and San Antonio road, and settled where that road crosses Davidson's creek, on a tract of land adjoining the present town of Caldwell. He spent the remainder of his life in this county, and died here in 1881, in the ninety-sixth year of his age. Farming and stock-raising formed the chief pursuits of his life, and, like most of the early Texans, he cared but but little for wealth, and beyond the good living which he secured, mainly through his flocks and herds, his early removal to Texas was without profit to himself. With the exception of his services in the war of 1836, already mentioned, and in the ranging service at an early day in this State, he had no public career. He was a public-spirited and patriotic citizen, however, and gave abundant evidence of his zeal and devotion to the welfare of the community in which he resided, on all proper occasions. His wife died soon after their removal to Texas, probably about 1841. Although deprived of his faithful helpmeet he held his large family together and raised them to be useful men and women. His eldest, Elizabeth, was twice married, first to Samuel Sloan, and, after his death, to M. B. Goodwin; Nancy Jane was married to Alonzo White; Sarah E. was married to C. C. Chance; William Green died in this county, leaving a number of children; Ezekiel Bertrand entered the ranging service when a young man and was killed on the frontier; Narcissa Angeline was married to J. P. Johnson, and after his death, to E. J. Curry; Minerva died unmarried; Robert H. died in this county before marriage, as did also Mary A., the youngest of the family.

Joseph C. Rowland, the sixth of this pioneer family, of Burleson county, was born December 25, 1833. He was, therefore, only about four years old when his parents came

to Texas. He was reared in Burleson county, growing up on the old homestead, north of Caldwell, on part of which he now lives. His boyhood and youth were passed in the saddle and his early educational advantages were very limited.

In June, 1855, Mr. Rowland married Susan Thomas, a daughter of J. W. Thomas, of Burleson county, and having secured a small tract of land, settled on it and became farming for himself. He was so engaged at the opening of the late war, when at the first call for volunteers he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Company G, Second Texas Infantry. He had hardly reached the field with his command when he had to resign on account of ill health and return home. But as soon as he recovered he again enlisted, going in Waul's Legion, being elected Captain of Company A, of that command, with which he served during the remainder of the war. He was in active field service from the date of his second enlistment till the close of hostilities, taking part in the operations in front of the Federals on the Mississippi and at Vicksburg, and after the fall of that place in the engagements in Arkansas till the close of hostilities. He returned home at the close of the war and resumed farming and stock-raising, in which he met with good success. Being desirous of going into the stock business on a larger scale than the range in central Texas then permitted of, he made up a party in the spring of 1868, consisting of eight or ten families, with their household goods, flocks and herds, and started to the Pacific coast. The point of destination was southern California, and the route lay through western Texas, New Mexico and Arizona. The journey was accomplished after many months of weary travel and suffering, and after the loss of nearly all the





stock with which the party set out, Captain Rowland's individual loss being 650 head out of about 800 head. Traveling up the coast as far as Sacramento, he spent three years in that country, engaged mainly in the stock business. In the spring of 1872 he decided to return to Texas. Selling out all of his possessions he took the train and came back, and again took up his residence in Burleson county. He has lived in this county since, most of the time, on his present place, about a mile north and west of Caldwell. Soon after his return in May, 1872, Captain Rowland had the misfortune to lose his wife after seventeen years of faithful companionship. She left four children: Ezekiel; Watt; Sal-lie; Dustie and Eula Lee, all of whom are now grown.

In 1873, Captain Rowland married Mrs. Martha Susan Boone, widow of Squire Boone, and daughter of P. G. Thomas, to which union two children were born: Eureka and Jo, both daughters. His wife died in 1881, and for his third companion he married Miss Emma Boren, a daughter of John D. and Lucinda Boren, of Barry county, Missouri. Mrs. Rowland was born in Wapello county; Iowa. The issue of this marriage has been five children: Seth; Coke; Emma; Darden and Austin.

Captain Rowland having been identified with the farming interests, has always taken a leading part in all matters relating to the welfare of the farming community. He was a conspicuous figure in the Grange movement in Burleson county some years ago, and is still connected with this order. He is, and has been for some time, president of the Burleson County Co-operative Association, which conducts a mercantile establishment at Caldwell, and seeks by other co-operative measures to benefit the farming class. He

has served as County Commissioner of Burleson county; as Sheriff and Tax-collector, and has held other local positions. He is a Democrat in politics, coming of a long line of Democratic ancestors, from whom he has inherited a predilection for the doctrines of Jefferson and Jackson, which has been sedulously cultivated by study and observation.

Captain Rowland is a man of good intelligence, and having large experience in Texas, is full of information about Texas ways and Texas people. Has fifty-odd years experience in this State, if faithfully given would form a valuable contribution to Texas reminiscences.



**J**OHAN S. SMITH, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born in middle Tennessee, January 13, 1833, a son of James and Rebecca (Hale) Smith, natives of North Carolina, and of English descent. The father, a farmer and Methodist minister, died in Tennessee in 1862, his wife having died previous to that time. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom grew up to years of maturity, viz.: Amplias, who died in Smith county, Texas, in 1890; Melissa, deceased; Mary, deceased; Frances, who married a Mr. Burford, moved to Arkansas, and after his death she became the wife of Mr. Moore, and both are now living at Pine Bluff, Arkansas; Jane, who came to Bastrop county, Texas, in 1847, married James Owens, and both are now deceased; James, deceased at the age of twenty-three years; William, came to Texas in 1847, returned to his former State four years later, and served through the late war; Susan, deceased; and J. S., our subject.

John S. Smith was reared on a farm in western Tennessee, and remained under the



parental roof until 1851. In that year he came to Texas, spent the first year in school at Brenham, and since that time had resided in Bastrop county. He has bought and sold large tracts of land, but still owns five farms, consisting of 1,500 acres, 600 acres of which is under cultivation. Mr. Smith also owns a store building in Elgin. In 1861 he entered the Confederate army, but soon afterward hired a substitute for eighteen months. The rules of the army made all substitutes serve for themselves, and he was again obliged to enter the army, after which he was engaged principally in driving beef cattle.

In 1852 Mr. Smith married Miss Sarah B., a daughter of Thomas Christian, a native of Virginia. He subsequently moved to Illinois, and in 1832 came to Texas. He was the first man killed by the Indians on Colorado river, while out with a surveying party. A Mr. Wilbarger was shot and scalped at the same time, and left for dead, but he afterwards recovered. Mr. Christian was an enterprising pioneer, and received a claim to a league of land where Elgin is now located. He was living on the Colorado river, near where Bastrop now stands, at the time of his death, having never moved to his claim. After his death his widow, with five children, located on the claim, but the Indians and Mexicans soon afterward invaded the country, and she crossed the Sabine river with the other settlers. She was twice obliged to leave her home for safety, and her death occurred in this county in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Christian had five children: Ann E., deceased, was the wife of P. Borden; John, who engaged in fighting the Indians when about ten years old, was in many battles and finally died in Columbus, Texas; Nancy, wife of Thomas H. Gatlin; Jane, now Mrs. J. E.

Tisdal; and Sarah B., married Mr. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Smith had seven children: Alice, wife of P. P. Woods; Ann W., who married A. J. Brooks; James B., a farmer and stock raiser of New Mexico; Hiram B., a merchant of Elgin; W. A., a partner in business with his brother; Mary R., wife of R. L. Sloop; and Nancy F., at home. The wife and mother died March 30, 1872. In 1877, Mr. Smith married Mrs. Garret, widow of Judge Garret and a daughter of Dr. Barbee. The latter was a native of Kentucky, but came to Williamson county, Texas, in an early day, where he practiced his profession many years. Mrs. Smith was well educated, and was an assistant teacher in the high school at Salado, Texas. By her first marriage she had one son, Clide B. Garret, who was raised by Mr. Smith, and is now attending Vanderbilt University, of Tennessee. He is a licensed Methodist minister. Mr. Smith is identified with the Democratic party, is a Royal Arch Mason and Master of Elgin Lodge, and has been a member of the Methodist Church for thirty-eight years, of which his wife is also a member.



**M** F. MAGEE, one of the representative farmers of Williamson county, was born in Yalobusha county, Mississippi, December 2, 1837, a son of James and Edna (Dawson) Magee. The father was a son of Patrick Magee, who came from Ireland to the then Territory of Missouri, where he followed agricultural pursuits. James Magee was born in that State, and married there, moving with his widowed mother to Tennessee, and thence to Mississippi, where he died in 1864. James Magee's widow, now ninety-two years of age, resides with a daughter in Caldwell county,



Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Magee were the parents of twelve children, viz.: Patriek, who came to Texas in 1870, and is now a farmer of Caldwell county; Samuel, who came to this State in the same year and resides in the same county as his brother; Elbert came to Texas in 1869 and now resides in Hardeman county; C. W., deceased in Mississippi in 1859; John D., who came to this State in 1859 and died in 1863; M. F., our subject; Riley came to Williamson county, Texas, in 1858, and died in 1873; Marion, who came to this State two different times, and now lives in Mississippi; Joe came in 1870 and resides in Lockhart, Caldwell county; Mattie, wife of Joe Smith, also of Lockhart; Laverna, widow of Joe Shin, and a resident of Caldwell county; and Robert, who came to Texas with his brother in 1869, locating in this county, died in 1890. Eight of the sons served through the late war, and only one received a slight wound.

M. F. Magee, the subject of this sketch, purchased a farm in 1857, where he remained until 1861. In that year he enlisted in Company C, First Mississippi Regiment, was consigned to the Army of the Tennessee, Vandorn's brigade, after whose death Mr. Magee served under Jackson, and afterward under Hood. Mr. Magee took part in all the prominent battles, serving until the close of the struggle, and was never wounded or captured. He was in Mississippi at the time of the surrender. After returning home he found his farm in a neglected state, but he at once began its improvement, and in 1868 sold his land and came to Texas. Mr. Magee immediately purchased his present farm in Williamson county, which was then all raw land. He now owns 200 acres, 150 of which are in a fine state of cultivation, and most of which he rents.

August 2, 1857, when eighteen years of age, Mr. Magee was married to Sarah A. Porter, daughter of Jesse A. Porter, a native of Tennessee, but who died in Mississippi. Mr. and Mrs. Magee had five children: Anna, wife of M. Bolden, a farmer of Williamson county; J. W., a farmer and Treasurer of Ford county, Texas; Alice, wife of George Payne, of Taylor, this State; William F., a merchant of Georgetown; and Luey, wife of Charley Cook, a farmer of Williamson county. Mrs. Magee died March 24, 1871, having been a consistent member of the Methodist Church. October 14, 1880, Mr. Magee married Miss S. D. McDaniel, who was born in Alabama, November 12, 1860, a daughter of David and Eliza (Bryan) McDaniel, also natives of that State. Her father, a physician by profession, died March 15, 1882. Her mother afterward married J. H. Gray, and she now resides in this county. Mrs. Magee came to Texas in 1872. Our subject and wife have had four children: Birdy, born August 14, 1881; Sally, July 26, 1883; Ethel, November 27, 1886; and Minnie, June 27, 1888.

Mr. Magee was formerly a Democrat, but is now a third-party man. Socially, he is a member of the Alliance, and, religiously, both he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.



JAMES A. WOOD, an enterprising and successful citizen of Bastrop county, was born in Travis county, Texas, April 9, 1850, a son of William and Louisa (Glover) Wood, natives of Alabama. The parents came to Texas in 1849, rented land at Weberville, Travis county, a few years, and then purchased a farm, and afterward



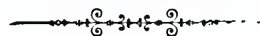


sold that place, and bought the land where our subject now resides. He died in 1876, at the age of fifty-six years, and his wife still lives at the old homestead, aged sixty-eight years. Both were consistent members of the Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Wood were the parents of ten children, eight of whom grew to years of maturity: William, a farmer of Bastrop county; Jack, also engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county; James A., our subject; Molley, at home; Thomas, deceased at the age of thirty years; Elledge, a farmer of Bastrop county; Fanny, wife of J. C. Chapman, of this county; Charles, deceased; and Janie, deceased.

James A. Wood, the subject of this sketch, remained under the parental roof until twenty-seven years of age, and he then began farming his interest in the home place. In 1888 he purchased a farm on the Colorado river, and he now owns 262 acres, 150 acres under a fine state of cultivation. His land is located in the Colorado valley, where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He now has about 150 steers. In 1887 Mr. Wood established a postoffice at McDuff, of which he was appointed Postmaster. In 1882 he opened a general mercantile store on his farm, which he conducted successfully twelve years, but in November, 1892, both the store and post office were burned. He carried but a small insurance. In 1888 Mr. Wood erected a steam gin; in 1892 built another in a different neighborhood, and during the present year will make about 1,500 bales of cotton. In 1892 he embarked in the drug business, and the postoffice is now located in his store building.

November 14, 1878, Mr. Wood was united in marriage to Miss Martha Rivers, who was born in this State, June 1, 1857, a daughter

of William Rivers. The latter came to Bastrop county, Texas, in 1853, where he served as a Methodist minister many years. He died in 1878, and his wife also departed this life the same year. They were the parents of seven children: Sally, wife of J. I. McGinis; W. H., engaged in the banking business at Elgin; Mattie, wife of our subject; Molley, now Mrs. W. O. Strans; Emma, wife of Samuel Manor; Joe, of Elgin; and Ida, wife of H. Y. Allen. Mr. and Mrs. Wood have had five children: Elledge, Charles, Lester, Raleigh, and Bremond. Mr. Wood affiliates with the Democratic party, and socially is a member of the Knights of Honor. Both he and his wife are members of the Missionary Baptist Church. In 1887 Mr. Wood was a delegate to a convention at Mexico, to assist in building a church. He helped dedicate the first Missionary Baptist Church in Mexico.



SILAS VICKERS, a farmer of Williamson county, is a son of James and Elizabeth (Sanders) Vickers, of German descent. The family located in Virginia in a very early day, and later settled in North Carolina, where the grandfather of our subject, Benjamin Vickers, was born and raised. He joined the army during the Indian troubles, in the Northwest Territory, under Mad Anthony Wayne, and was wounded during his service. While on an expedition into Canada he met and married Henrietta Robinson. When their son, James, was nine years of age they moved to Logan county, Ohio. James Vickers was born in 1804, was reared to manhood in Logan county, Ohio, and was there married about 1827. In 1838 they removed to Perry county, Illinois, and nine years afterward came to



Caldwell county, Texas. In 1856 they went to California, where the father was killed by a rolling log in 1869, and the maternal grandfather of our subject was killed by a falling house. Mr. Vickers was a man of good business judgment, a member of the Methodist Church, and a devoted Christian. The Sanders family removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio in an early day. Mr. and Mrs. James Vickers had three children: Silas, our subject; Caleb B., who was a resident of Mexico when last heard from; and Caroline, wife of W. J. Slaughter, of Frio county, Texas. The mother died in 1850.

Silas Vickers was born in Logan county, Ohio, March 21, 1828, and in 1845 came with his parents to Texas. In 1857 he moved from Caldwell county to Williamson county, and in 1868 located on his present farm of 385 acres, fifty acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. The land lies on the North Gabriel, ten miles west of Georgetown. At the opening of the late war Mr. Vickers enlisted in Company A, Thirtieth Texas Cavalry, and served three years in the Trans-Mississippi Department. He was engaged principally in scouting service. After returning from the war he found his stock gone, and was obliging to begin life anew. He takes no active part in politics, but principally votes with the Democratic party.

August 14, 1851, in Lockhart, Caldwell county, Texas, Mr. Vickers was united in marriage to Mary J. Netherlin, who was born and raised in Mississippi. She came with her parents to Texas in 1848. To this union have been born fourteen children, as follows: Elizabeth, wife of G. G. Anderson, of Williamson county; Louisa, wife of Jehu Lockhart, of the same neighborhood; Liddie, deceased; Charles and James, of Williamson

county; John F., deceased; Burnetta J., wife of G. H. Fore, of Williamson county; R. E. L. and Lewis C., also of this county; Sarah C., wife of G. W. Phipps, of Fisher county; and W. S., S. J., G. G., and C. E., at home. Mrs. Vickers is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



**A** H. CARTER, business manager of the mercantile firm of W. H. Carter & Company, Elgin, was born in Marshall county, Alabama, April 5, 1848, a son of N. J. Carter. The latter was a plain, unpretentious farmer, took no leading part in politics or religion, but stood high in his community as an upright and honorable gentleman. He served as Justice of the Peace a number of years, and also held other minor offices. His death occurred November 10, 1881. Mr. Carter was twice married, and by the first union there were two sons, both of whom lost their lives in the late war. By his second marriage he had eleven children, all of whom reside in Texas: L. B., A. H., C. M., C. H., G. N., J. C., T. N., J. W., J. L., Sally and Kate. The mother still survives, and is a consistent member of the Methodist Church.

A. H. Carter, the subject of this sketch, attended the common schools for a time, and then spent two terms in the high school. After completing his education he taught school until 1871, when he came to Texas. He assisted in building the railroad bridges to Austin, and then rented 100 acres of land, where he farmed on the shares. His first year's profits were eight bales of cotton, for which he received 14½ cents a pound, and 1,400 bushels of corn, selling the latter for \$100. Mr. Carter taught school the follow-



ing winter, and he then sent for his father and family, and when the latter arrived in this State he had only \$50 in money. The father and sons rented land two years, and then purchased a small place. After the family became settled, our subject again began operations for himself, and took charge of the farm he had first rented, where he remained twelve years. At that time he had accumulated \$2,000, and then he bought a small tract of land for \$350. His wife's health then failed, and they went to Eureka Springs, Arkansas, where she afterward died. His money was then exhausted, and he subsequently took his old position as superintendent of the farm, where he remained two years, taught a country school one year, had charge of the Elgin school one term, and in June, 1886, entered the employment of W. H. Rivers, as a clerk in his mercantile store. His ability as a clerk was appreciated, and his wages were increased from time to time. In January, 1892, Mr. Rivers changed his occupation from a merchant to banker, and, with others, Mr. Carter purchased the business. He is now one-third owner and business manager of the establishment, and is the leading man in all branches of the business. During this season he purchased over 4,700 bales of cotton, and the firm carry a \$20,000 stock of goods, and their annual sales amount to \$100,000. Five clerks, one book-keeper and two proprietors are kept busy in looking after the business. Mr. Carter is also a one-third owner in a large brick block in this city, and has a handsome and commodious residence.

In 1875 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Clink, a daughter of Persly A. and Sarah J. George, natives of Tennessee. The parents came to Texas first in 1836, and again in 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Carter had

one child, Robert L., now twelve years of age. The wife and mother died at Eureka Springs, Arkansas, July 22, 1881, and August 27, 1884, Mr. Carter married Miss Ida Brooks, a daughter of Rev. C. H. Brooks, Presiding Elder of the Methodist Church in Austin district, Texas Conference. To this union have been born five children: Calvin B., Sidney E., Alford H., Leonodus R. and James Lewis. Mr. Carter gives his entire attention to his business interests, takes no leading part in politics, supports the Democratic ticket, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Honor. Both he and his wife are member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the former is Superintendent of the Sunday-school.



GUS H. JONES, the leading lumber dealer of Elgin, was born in Decatur, Morgan county, Alabama, May 28, 1841, a son of Rev. William and Cynthia (Reece) Jones, natives of Kentucky and Tennessee, respectively. The father was a son of Abediah Jones, a native of Scotland, who subsequently located in Kentucky. Rev. William Jones served as a Methodist minister for forty-two years, and was also a noted surveyor of Kentucky and Tennessee. Jonesborough, in the latter State, was named in his honor. His death occurred in Fayette county, Texas, in 1851, and his wife survived him until 1863. They were the parents of twelve children, namely: Mary A., wife of Levi Claybrook, who is engaged in railroad work in Memphis, Tennessee; J. W. was a soldier in the late war, was an agent for the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, and was killed by a train in 1888; Harriet, wife of W. G. Stevenson, who is engaged in news-





paper work on the Memphis Appeal; Thomas S., who served through the Civil war, and was engaged as a railroad agent, died about 1869; Margaret is the wife of a Mr. Thomas Fluellen, who is also engaged in railroad work; R. P., who served through the late war, is a resident of Elgin; Cynthia B., wife of R. W. Davis, of this city; William E., who was several times wounded in the war, now draws a pension, and resides at Houston; Turner, deceased when young; Gus H., our subject; Frank R., a druggist of Austin; and Martha, who died of yellow fever at Washington.

Gus H. Jones came to Texas with his parents in 1849, locating in La Grange, Fayette county, and in 1852 came to Bastrop county. In 1861 he was one of the first to enlist in the Confederate service from this part of the country, entering Ford's command, was sent to the Rio Grande, but eight months later joined De Bray's regiment, consigned to the Trans-Mississippi Department, and took part in many battles in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas. He was never wounded or captured, but at one time his horse was shot while under him. Mr. Jones was at Galveston island at the time of the surrender, after which, in July, 1865, he located in Navasota, Texas. For the following four years he was engaged in the newspaper business on the Navasota Courier, but in 1869 sold his paper and returned to Bastrop county. After arriving in this county he purchased a farm, and also followed saw and grist milling and cotton ginning. The town of Elgin was laid out in 1873, and in the following year he embarked in the lumber business in this city, where he now carries a full stock of building material, paints, oils, nails, etc.

In 1864 Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Emma Mitchell, who was born Jan-

uary 13, 1847, a daughter of John H. Mitchell, of Grimes county, Texas. He was a leader in politics, a strong Union man, and during the late war he went to Mexico, where he remained twenty-three years. His death occurred in this State in 1892. Our subject and wife have had five children, three now living: Mabel F., wife of A. Roberts, of Elgin; and Mitchell and Maud at home. Mr. Jones affiliates with the Democratic party, is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the Knights of Honor, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



**B**ENJAMIN P. TEMPLETON, one of the enterprising business men of Bastrop county, was born in Lawrens district, South Carolina, February 2, 1845, a son of B. C. and Mary (Goodwin) Templeton, natives also of that State, the former of English and the latter of Welsh and English descent. They were the parents of seven children: Margery, Frances, Benjamin P., Isabella, Giles, Lumas and Mary.

Benjamin P. Templeton, the only one of the family to come to Texas, remained at home until the opening of the late war. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in Company F, Fourteenth South Carolina Infantry, was consigned to the Army of Virginia, A. P. Hill's Division, Jackson's Corps, and took part in all the battles and skirmishes of the division from Seven Pines to Appomattox, with the exception of Gettysburg. He was slightly wounded at Frazier's Farm and Chantilla, and at Chancellorsville was shot through the thigh, which rendered him unable for service four months, and during that time the battle of Gettysburg was fought. Mr. Templeton was at Appomattox at the close of the strug-



gle, and surrendered with Lee's army. He then remained at home until 1867, when he came to Texas, spending the first four years in Webberville, Travis county. During the following four years he lived on Wilbarger creek, in Bastrop county, and then purchased his present farm of 817 acres, 400 acres of which are now under a good state of cultivation. In 1877 Mr. Templeton built a steam-power gin, with all modern improvements, and in 1889 opened a general stock of merchandise in this city, and later built a residence near the store. He rents most of his land, and gives his attention to ginning and farming.

In 1871 Mr. Templeton was united in marriage to Miss Addie Harris, who was born in Mississippi, in 1847, a daughter of Claibourne and Rhody Harris, natives of Tennessee. The parents came to Texas in 1854, and located on a farm in Bastrop county. Both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Templeton have had six children, five now living, namely: Emma, Lee, Edmond, Claib and Preston, all attending school. Mrs. Templeton is a member of the Methodist Church. Our subject takes an interest in political matters, and votes with the Democratic party.



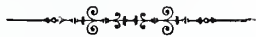
**W** W. WATSON, the subject of this sketch, is a worthy representative of one of the early-settled families of Texas, being a son of William B. and Margaret Watson, the former of whom came to Texas in December, 1836, and the latter in January, 1840. William B. Watson was a native of North Carolina where he was born May 5, 1816. He grew up in his native State and cast his fortunes with the infant

Republic of Texas before he had reached his majority. His first place of residence in Texas was San Augustine county. Later he lived in Travis and Bastrop counties. He married in San Augustine in 1839, and in 1847 settled in Burleson county, which he made his home from that date until his death, January 23, 1874. When a young man he was variously engaged, principally however in freighting and carpentering. He made cotton-wood shingles in Travis for some time during his residence there, furnishing these for a number of the buildings that were erected in Austin at an earlier day. He was in many frontier expeditions and bore arms under General Thomas J. Rusk in the noted Cherokee war of 1838. After settling in Burleson county he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and stock-raising on a small scale. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Buie, was born in Moore county, North Carolina, about 1810. Her father was William Buie, who was in his day a very prominent and useful man in his State and county. He was for very many years a member of the Legislature from his county, was the strongest man, politically, in his county, and was never defeated for office. Her mother's maiden name was Margaret Mc Iver. Mrs. Watson left North Carolina in 1836, and after remaining in Tennessee about one year removed with her brother to Texas, where she married William B. Watson. She was a cousin of the celebrated Colonel James Buie.

She died in Burleson county in 1849. Four children were the issue of this marriage: Mary Jane, who was married to E. M. Ellis and is now deceased; Sarah Ann, who was married to L. A. McAuley; Catherine; Lonisa, who was married to S. C. House and William W. the subject of this sketch.



William W. Watson was born near Yegua post office, Burleson county, April 1, 1849. He was reared in this county, having been brought up on the farm. Februrary 7, 1877, he married Miss Dora A. Cottrell, daughter of J. F. and Martha Cottrell of Burleson county and settled on his present farm where he has since resided engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is an industrious, thrifty and successful farmer and a useful and highly respected citizen. To his home and farming interests he is devoted without reservation. He has a family of six children: Louisa Pearl, Clinton DeWitt, Mattie Leona, Jasper Hilton, Lula Lee and William Wright.



**J**OSIAH TAYLOR, deceased, and the first merchant of Williamson county, was born in Virginia, March 12, 1812, a son of Littlebury Taylor. At the age of fifteen years Josiah was left an orphan, and from that time was obliged to make his own way in the world. He worked on the river for a time, and then, having been a fine mechanic, followed carpentering. From 1841 until 1845 he lived in Arkansas and Neosho, Newton county, Missonri, having erected the first house in that city, and in the latter year came to Bastrop county, Texas. Mr. Taylor remained in that county one year, and then removed to near where Elgin is now located, where he improved his farm and engaged in merchandising, hanling his goods with ox teams from Houston. From that place he moved to near where Hutto, Texas, is now located, where he opened the first stock of goods in the county, in a small room in his dwelling, but this stock of about \$700 worth of goods when sold, was scattered over a greater radius than that of any of the stores

now in Georgetown. In the latter part of 1849 Mr. Taylor came to Georgetown, purchased \$250 worth of goods of A. J. McKay, increased the stock, and did a successful business until 1860, when he sold his store and went to Waco. In 1851 he erected at Georgetown the largest store then in the county, the store now being known as the Breneke & Company building, which has been three times moved. While in Waco our subject also conducted a wholesale grocery store, supplying the trade in Burnet, Lampasas, Llano, San Saba, and the county of Coryell, covering a distance of 100 miles to the north and west. At that time there were no towns between Georgetown and Waco. In 1865 he sold his store in that city and opened a wholesale grocery store in Galveston.

At that time money was very scarce, owing to the ravages of the Civil war. Mr. Taylor was a man universally admired for his strict honesty and his many noble and sterling qualities of head and heart. His word was as good as a bank note, and his promise to pay, was always equivalent to the cash in hand. The following is an example of the confidence placed in him. In 1865 he went to New York, with but little more money than was actually necessary in paying his expenses, and while there saw some of the merchants with whom he had previously had dealings. They met at the Astor House, where he told them of the impoverished condition of his people. Several of the men offered to let him have goods on ninety days and 120 days' credit, but he still wanted more time. At this juncture J. H. Brower, of the firm of J. H. Brower & Co., said: "Mr. Taylor, I would buy such goods as I wanted, would buy them wherever I could do the best, buy as many as you care to, pay for them when you get ready, and the firm of J. H. Brower & Co. will







*A. W. Carpenter*



honor your draft." The enigma was then solved. Mr. Taylor bought about \$100,000 worth of goods for his wholesale store, and every dollar of the money was forthcoming within a few months, and before two years had passed Mr. Taylor favored J. H. Brower in a similar manner, for which he was obliged to sell his store in Galveston. His death occurred August 18, 1868, at La Grange, he having been taken suddenly ill while on his way to Georgetown. The physicians pronounced his disease congestion, but as the family, who were then at home, had the yellow fever, and his symptoms strangely resembled that disease, it was thought by many that his death was caused from that malady.

Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Catherine Lee, and they had six children, viz.: Clemency Ann, wife of J. M. Brandon; Emzy, the next in order of birth; Mary Cerethana, of Waco, married the late Rufus C. Majors; Florence Isabel, deceased in 1887, was the wife of Travis S. Jones; Kate, wife of Travis S. Jones, of Waco; and Euphrates, of Georgetown. Mrs. Taylor, born in 1820, died in 1856. Both she and her husband were members of the Christian Church for many years. It was not only in the family circle that this most estimable lady was missed, but she had endeared herself most affectionately to the hearts of her associates, which feeling extended to all who knew her. Mr. Taylor's second marriage was to Mrs. Caroline Rose, widow of Dr. Rose. She now resides at Sewanee, Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor had one son, W. J., born December 29, 1859. He was educated in Holly Springs, Mississippi, and in New York, also taking a course in civil engineering in the University of the South, of Tennessee. Mr. Taylor, the subject of this sketch, was a liberal, enterprising and public-spirited citizen, and was a man of

kind, generous and praiseworthy impulses. He gave liberally to the poor, and those in distress always found in him a valued friend. Until his death no church in the county was built without his contribution. His life was one of honor, usefulness, integrity and a good success.



**A** W. CARPENTER, the proud position of Texas among her sister States naturally leads us to seek for the secret of her wonderful advancement, and it is soon discovered to consist in the intelligence, energy and morality of her inhabitants, prominent among whom is the subject of this sketch.

He comes of an old Southern family, whose ancestors were Americans as far back as their records go. William Carpenter, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a farmer in Alabama, who, as his children were growing up, began to look about for a location where opportunities were more favorable for their advancement than were afforded by the older States. Hearing glowing accounts of the rich fertile land in Texas, which was to be obtained at a low price, he at once concluded to avail himself of the opportunities offered here. Consequently, in 1836, the year that Texas gained her independence from Mexico, he removed with his family to the Republic, and cast his lot with the few brave pioneers who had preceded him to "the promised land." He settled in what is now Caldwell county, where he and his family experienced all the hardships and privations to which the early settlers of Texas were subjected. Indians and wild beasts were then troublesome, and a high degree of courage was developed in withstanding their depredations, and Mr.



Carpenter and family, with many others, passed through this dark time and sowed the seeds of civilization which their posterity now enjoy. A man of intelligence, good judgment, progressive and public-spirited, Mr. Carpenter was frequently called upon to fill positions of honor and trust. Of high moral character, he won the confidence and esteem of all by his upright dealings and correct living. He was an active and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, contributing of his means and influence to the advancement of its cause. He married Mary Long, and they had eight children: Andrew, deceased; Isaac, deceased; Joseph Asbury, who died in the Confederate army during the late war. Wiley, the present clerk of Caldwell county; Calvin, deceased; Amelia, wife of J. R. Fleming, a minister of the Baptist Church; Bettie, widow of B. F. Fry, who died in the army; and John, who also died in the Confederate service.

Of these, Joseph Asbury Carpenter was the father of the subject of this sketch. He was born in Alabama, October 23, 1829, and was seven years of age when his parents removed to the Lone Star State. Owing to the newness of the country and consequent scarcity of schools, he enjoyed but limited educational advantages, but of a naturally quick intelligence and observing disposition, with a reflective turn of thought, he became well informed, while his character was molded to habits of industry and truth by enlightened and God-fearing parents. His youth was passed in helping his father clear and improve wild land for their frontier home. On reaching man's estate, he was married to Elizabeth May, daughter of A. G. and Margaret (Caldwell) May, prominent pioneer settlers and respected residents of Texas, mention of whom is made in this volume. After marriage,

Mr. Carpenter was overseer of a plantation for a time, but finally purchased a tract of land, on which he erected a residence and was beginning to clear his farm when the ominous clouds of war began to overshadow the country, and an appeal was made to the patriotic men of the South to go to war in defense of her time-honored institutions. Mr. Carpenter was one of the first to respond to the call, and enlisted in 1861 in Company K. of Colonel Allen's regiment, being assigned to duty in the Department of the West. In 1862, he was detailed to the recruiting service and returned to his home county. While here he was taken ill with a severe attack of measles, but, being ambitious to faithfully perform his duty to his country, he did not wait to recover, but arose from his bed and accompanied his recruits to the seat of war. He arrived in camp on the White river, near Little Rock, Arkansas, but disease was still lurking in his system, and he was soon afterward stricken with pneumonia, from which he never recovered. He died in camp, November 14, 1862, and filled a soldier's grave, away from his loved ones and all most near and dear. Mrs. Carpenter was thus left in the early days of the war, with five children, the oldest of whom was but eight years of age, and in almost destitute circumstances in a country where nearly all the able-bodied men were in the war and everything in an unsettled condition. This brave woman, however, courageously struggled with poverty, enduring all hardships with Christian fortitude, and made a home for herself and little ones, rearing her children in such a manner that they have all become useful members of society and a blessing to her name. These children were: A. W., whose name heads this sketch; Joseph A., also of Williamson county; Mary, wife of T. W. Kelley, of Travis county;





John, of Williamson county; and Amelia, wife of Jacob Glenn, of Travis county. Mrs. Carpenter was married again, November 15, 1866, her second husband being John B. Jeffery, and they had three children: Annie, who married Milton Davis, died in 1892; Bettie, wife of Columbus Hammock, of Williamson county; and Margaret, wife of William Inman, also of Williamson county. Mrs. Jeffery died November 28, 1885, after a long and useful life, leaving her family and many friends to mourn her loss.

A. W. Carpenter, the subject of this sketch, was born in Caldwell county, Texas, September 3, 1854, and thus his youth occurred at a time when the country was in a most unsettled condition, owing to the ravages of war. Being deprived of the loving and providing care of a father and being the oldest of the children, he was early obliged to assist his mother in the support of the family, and thus had no opportunity to secure an education, other than what he secured by self-application from books and papers, which he read by the light of a brush fire. With the exception of three months in school, this is the way in which he secured his literary knowledge. By experience, observation and reflection, he became well informed, securing a practical knowledge of affairs which with the high teachings of industry, honesty and morality learned from his parents, have contributed to his present success.

When sixteen years of age, Mr. Carpenter began for himself the life of a farmer, which he followed consecutively until he was twenty-four. He was then, for twenty-seven months, employed as clerk in the store of Mr. Speegle, of Williamson county, after which he accepted a position as clerk in the Grange store at Round Rock, where he was employed for five years. During this time, by practicing strict

economy and by close attention to business, he accumulated a small amount of money, which he invested, in January, 1886, in the mercantile business, in Hutto, in partnership with Messrs. S. M. Woolsey and J. W. Shipman. The last named gentleman has now retired from the firm and the business is conducted under the name of Woolsey & Carpenter. They are extensively engaged in general merchandising and rank among the most prosperous firms in the State. In connection with their mercantile pursuits, these gentlemen also conduct the only bank of Hutto, which they established in 1892. Their store house and bank are among the best buildings in the place, being large, two-story, brick structures, provided with all modern improvements and conveniences. They also own considerable real estate, including four brick store-houses, and are among the leading men of the community.

November 2, 1881, Mr. Carpenter was married to Miss Mattie C. Edwards, daughter of H. D. and Eliza (Smeltsen) Edwards, well known pioneers of Texas, where her father is a farmer. She was one of seven children: Lon, wife of J. T. Noble; Lizzie, married to Green Noble; Samuel, a resident of Williamson county; Nathan, who died in the Confederate service; Rebecca; Amanda, wife of H. C. May; and Mattie C., wife of the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter have five children: Vida, Grace, Walker, Gertrude and Alma.

Politically, Mr. Carpenter is a Democrat. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his father and grandfather before him were prominent adherents. He is essentially a self-made man, having started in life with nothing but a strong arm and willing heart, but has, by energy, perseverance, economy and right deal-



ing, accumulated a comfortable income. He contributes liberally to all worthy enterprises calculated to benefit the community and lends his influence to the advancement of religion and morality, being justly regarded as a public-spirited and worthy citizen.



**C**A. KING, one of the enterprising and leading citizens of Elgin, Bastrop county, was born in Cobb county, Georgia, December 16, 1842, a son of Barrington and Catherine (Nephew) King, natives also of that State. The father was a son of Roswell King, a native of Connecticut, who was the first to engage in the gold mining business in North Carolina. He afterward moved to Georgia, where he followed farming, and next took up his residence at Roswell, Cobb county, that State. That city was named in his honor, as was also the Roswell Manufacturing Company. His death occurred in Cobb county. The father of our subject was the pioneer cotton manufacturer of Texas, and the machinery for his mill was hauled by wagons 150 miles. He continued that occupation until his death, which occurred in 1868, and the mother survived him until 1886, dying at the age of ninety years. They were the parents of twelve children, viz.: Charles B., a Presbyterian minister; William N., a physician by profession, served as a surgeon in the army; Thomas E., who was killed at the battle of Chickamauga, while serving on General Smith's staff; Barrington S., who was a member of Wade Hampton's command in the late war, and was killed in North Carolina, while in service; Nephew, deceased; Ralph B., of New York; Susan, deceased; C. Evaline, wife of Rev. W. E. Baker, a Presbyterian minister of Roswell, Georgia; Joseph

H., who was wounded in the war, is now engaged in raising oranges in Florida; C. A., our subject; and the youngest died when in infancy.

C. A. King, the subject of this sketch, received a liberal education at the Georgia Military Institute, and was engaged in the cotton business in early life. He entered the late war from his native State, was appointed Sergeant Major of the Third Georgia Battalion, served principally in the army of Tennessee, but on account of ill health, he was subsequently put on staff duty at Vicksburg. At the close of the struggle he was on General Hardee's staff, in North Carolina. He was captured at Vicksburg, paroled, and after the close of the war he returned home. In 1861 Mr. King came to Texas, first locating in Terrell, but in 1888 came to Elgin, Bastrop county, where he has since been engaged in the cotton business. He is the largest cotton buyer and shipper of the city, handling about 4,000 bales annually. It was principally through his efforts that the town of Elgin was incorporated; he was elected the first Mayor after the incorporation, which position he still holds; assisted in establishing the water works; and is a stockholder in a valuable and extensive brick manufactory. They are now agitating the erection of a cotton oil mill.

Mr. King was married in 1864, to Miss Mary Hardee, a daughter of Noble A. Hardee, and a niece of General Hardee, of United States and Confederate armies. The former was engaged in cotton factorage and commission business at Savannah for many years, but subsequently went for his health to Richfield Springs, New York, where he died in 1869. Our subject and wife have had seven children, viz.: Clifford A., engaged in the cotton business in Monroe; John H., of Chi-



cago; William H., Barrington, Charles, Manie and Noble, at home. Mr. King has taken the Red Cross degree in the Masonic Order, and is Noble Grand in the I. O. O. F. Both he and his wife are members and communicants of the Episcopal Church.



**M**S. PARK, junior member of the firm of Kerr & Park, general merchants of Davilla, Milam county, is a native of Texas, having been born in Washington county, January 4, 1844. He was reared in his native county and in the city of Galveston, receiving his education in the schools of the latter place and at the Bastrop Military Institute which he was attending at the opening of the late war. He entered the Confederate army in 1861, enlisting in Company A, Waul's Legion, with which he served until the surrender. A late history speaking of this command says: "These troops served with credit throughout the war. General Waul knew thoroughly the topography of Mississippi, and by virtue of the knowledge and his ability as a commander he was assigned to arduous and responsible positions. His legion and the gallant Second Texas, commanded by that brave soldier, Colonel Ashbel Smith, erected a fort at a vital point on the Yazoo near the junction of the Yalobusha and Tallahatchie rivers, and repulsed the iron-clads commanded by the Federal general. At Vicksburg it also served with distinction suffering heavily during the siege." The reputation thus gained was fully sustained in the subsequent operations in which it took part west of the Mississippi, notably at Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Yellow Bayou, and Jenkins' Ferry. Mr. Park was with this command, and shared its fortunes

from first to last. At Vicksburg he received several slight wounds, but was never disabled for any considerable length of time from duty. He was at Galveston at the close of the war, and as soon as he received his discharge he secured a position as clerk in a general mercantile establishment at Houston, from which place after a year's residence he returned to Galveston. Mr. Park clerked and was in business for himself in that city until 1870, when he moved to Ocean Springs, Mississippi, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1881 when he moved to Milam county, settling at Davilla, where he engaged in merchandising, which he has followed at that place since. He is also interested in the live-stock business, giving special attention to the improvement of horses. He takes a leading part in matters of interest relating to his locality, especially to school and church work. He is one of the solid, reliable citizens of Davilla, and is justly regarded by his neighbors and associates as a man of strong character.

Mr. Park is a son of Moses and Sarah (Ayers) Park, his father a native of Tennessee, who came to Texas about 1835 or '36, locating in Washington county. Sarah Ayers was a native of New York, born November 12, 1822, and was brought by her parents to Texas in 1833. Her father, David Ayers, did a large and successful mercantile business in the State at an early day. He was one of the "Pioneers of Methodism" in Texas, and gave largely of his means toward building churches, and establishing Sunday-schools. He and his wife are buried in Galveston. Moses Park and Sarah Ayers were married in Washington county in 1840, and in 1849 moved to Galveston, where he died in 1855. The widow is still living. The parents were married by the Rev. Robert





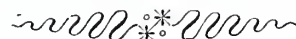
Alexander, a pioneer preacher of the Methodist Church in Texas, and an uncle of M. S. Park. Mrs. Park, mother of M. S. Park, has taken an active interest in missionary work, devoting her entire time for the last several years to the work of the Woman's Missionary Society. She supervised the building of a school at Laredo several years since, and spent a greater part of the year 1892 in Mexico, superintending the building and establishing of a school at Sabtillo, State of Chihuahua, to be conducted under the auspices of the Methodist Church.

The children of Moses and Sarah Park are: Robert A., who died at Galveston in 1882, from wounds received in the Confederate army during the war, he was a member of the celebrated Hood's Texas Brigade, and received a terrible wound at Sharpsburg; Moses Smith, the subject of this sketch; Annie, who was married to A. H. Kerr, and resides at Davilla, Milam county; and Frank A., who is a business man of Galveston.

M. S. Park and Mrs. C. S. Huke, widow of E. A. Huke, and daughter of Dr. James Angell, of Galveston, were married on April 13, 1870. Mrs. Park's parents were natives of London, England. She is a native of Wilkinson county, Mississippi, moving to Galveston when a child. Her father died in 1885, and her mother, eighty-eight old, lives in Galveston with another daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Park are the parents of five children: Frank Ayers, Wilbur, David, James, and Lottie. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church, and actively interest themselves in everything relating to the welfare of their church as well as the general cause of Christianity.

Since the above sketch was written, Mr. Park has sold his interest in the mercantile business at Davilla, and purchased a new

home in the famous "Panhandle" of Texas. He is now comfortably settled upon a ranch, situated within seven miles of Amarillo, Potter county, which is his postoffice. He has now found a place, where he can indulge his favorite passion for raising and developing fine horses, as it is now conceded that that the "Panhandle" country will grow the finest horses in the State.



JESSE W. WOMACK, a member of the firm of Womack & Sturgis, wholesale and retail dealers in groceries and dry goods in Taylor, was born in Washington county, Alabama, in 1849, a son of Frank and Nancy (Grimes) Womack. The father came to Texas in 1845, while it was yet a Republic. He devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, and was successful in that vocation until the opening of the late war. In 1863 he joined the Confederate army, and served until the close of hostilities, when he found himself stripped of all his possessions except his land. Consequently he was obliged to begin life anew, with the additional expense of educating his children. Mr. Womack died in 1875, at the age of fifty-nine years. His wife departed this life in 1888, at the age of sixty-six years. They were the parents of seven children: Mary, deceased; John F., deceased; William G., of Montgomery county; Fannie A., deceased; J. W., our subject; James B., also of Montgomery county; and one deceased in infancy. J. F. and W. G. were soldiers in the Confederate army, and were members of Colonel Elmoe's regiment. Mrs. Womack was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and her husband was identified with the A. F. and A. M. The maternal grand-



father of our subject, William Grimes, was one of the pioneer settlers of Harrison county, Texas, and his brother, Jesse Grimes, was the first to locate in Grimes county, this State, that county being named in his honor. He was one of the best known politicians of the State in an early day, and was often a member of the Senate of both the State and Republic. He served in both wars with Mexico.

Jesse W. Womack, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the schools of Montgomery county, Texas, and also attended a commercial school in New Orleans, where he graduated at the age of twenty-one years. After returning to the former county, where his parents had moved when he was a babe, he was employed as bookkeeper by a firm in Montgomery. At the age of twenty-three years Mr. Womack embarked in the mercantile business in that city, under the firm name of W. T. Nobles & Co., Messrs. Womack and Sturgis composing the company. In 1877 they sold their interest in the business, and in the fall of the same year opened a mercantile store in this city, with a capital stock of \$3,000. They erected a wooden store building, which was burned in 1878, and they then built a one-story brick, which they tore down in 1888. Their present magnificent two-story brick building was then erected, 120 x 52½ feet, the front of which is now occupied by their large stock of dry goods. The rear portion of the building, separated by an arch, is 40 x 52½ feet, and is devoted to the retail grocery trade. The retail grocery department handles and sells about \$200,000 worth of goods annually, and employs about sixteen men, besides outside help. In 1889, the firm of Womack & Sturgis erected another fine two-story brick building, fronting Broad street, and attached to

the main building. It is 60 x 125 feet, with a basement sixteen feet square, the latter of which is used as the wholesale grocery department. In this department they generally carry a stock amounting to \$60,000. Messrs. Womack & Sturgis are members of the Taylor Hardware Company, and are also interested in the First National Bank of Taylor, of which Mr. Sturgis is Director and Vice-President. They are largely interested in the Cotton Seed Oil & Gin Company. The firm also own a block of land on the International & Great Northern Railroad, where they have a large warehouse for corn, hay and oats, in which they are extensive dealers, and also handle about all the hides used in the city. During the cotton season of 1890 and 1891 the firm handled 10,000 bales of cotton, and during the past year they bought about 13,000 bales. They also own a fine stock farm of 714 acres, where they will soon engage in raising mules and cattle.

Mr. Womack was married in 1876, to Aggie Yell, a native of Texas, and a daughter of Judge P. M. and Mary (Rodgers) Yell. The father was one of the pioneers and leading men in Montgomery county, Texas, where he reared a family of five children. Mr. and Mrs. Womack have had six children: Cecil, Olga, Frank B., Jessie, a babe unnamed, and one deceased when young. Mr. Womack affiliates with the A. O. U. W., and both he and his wife are members of the A. L. H.



**T**HOMAS A. WIERMAN, a farmer of Williamson county, was born in Pennsylvania, August 5, 1829, a son of Thomas and Mary (Deardorff) Wierman, natives also of that State. The paternal grandfather, Nicholas Wierman, was of Ger-



man descent, and located in Pennsylvania when the Indians still inhabited that State, where he followed farming and mining. The Deardorff family were natives of Pennsylvania, and but little is known of their history. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wierman were the parents of seven children: George W., a resident of Iowa; Thomas A., our subject; Lydia A., deceased; William A., of Nebraska; Joseph F., deceased; Sarah D., deceased, was formerly a resident of Washington city; and Hannah M., deceased. The father died in September, 1852, and the mother in 1870.

Thomas A. Wierman, the subject of this sketch, remained under the parental roof until seventeen years of age, when he served an apprenticeship in Maryland at the millwright's trade, with his uncle, Daniel Wierman. In 1853 he went to Iowa; in 1858 returned to Maryland; the following year engaged in the milling business, in Virginia; in 1861 embarked in the same occupation in Frederick county, Maryland; in the spring of 1863 went to Parkersburg, West Virginia, where he kept a large steam mill in repair two years; again followed milling in Frederick county, Maryland; in 1877 removed to Austin, Texas, and a short time afterward came to Georgetown. After locating in that city, Mr. Wierman repaired and conducted a mill a short time, and then put in new machinery for a mill in the San Gabriel valley. In 1878 he purchased 100 acres of raw land in Williamson county, on which he erected a dwelling, and immediately began the improvement of his place. He has added to his original purchase until he now owns 252 acres, 150 of which are in a fine state of cultivation, devoted to general farming.

In 1858 Mr. Wierman was married in Maryland, to Elizabeth Martin, who was born in that State, in 1838, and is a daughter of

John A. Martin, a farmer of Frederick county, and also a public auctioneer. Our subject and wife had seven children, viz.: Harry M., a farmer of Bell county, Texas, has three children; Willie M., deceased, at the age of sixteen years; Robert S., a farmer of Williamson county; Rolasie, wife of William Rogers, also a farmer, of this county, and they have three children; Winfield Scott, at home; and two deceased in infancy. The wife and mother died June 11, 1879, and in 1881 Mr. Wierman married Mary E. Wierman, born in Pennsylvania. Her father, Joseph Wierman, also a native of that State, ran, at one time, for County Judge, against his brother, who was of different political opinion, but the latter was defeated.

Mr. Wierman, our subject, is independent in his political views, and was a candidate for Treasurer of Williamson county, on the third party ticket, in the campaign of 1892. Mr. Wierman is President of the Williamson County Alliance, and was formerly a member of the I. O. O. F. He is an active and useful member of the Methodist Church.



**V**AL C. GILES, of Travis county, Texas, was born in Tipton county, Tennessee, January 26, 1843, and is a son of Edward S. Giles. When six years of age he came with his parents to Texas and settled in Travis county, near Anstin.

He remained at home until the spring of 1861, and then enlisted in Company B, Fourth Texas Regiment, "Hoods Texas Brigade," serving under Lee and participating in the battles of West Point, Seven Pines, seven days' fight before Richmond, second Manassas and Fredericksburg. Mr. Giles was twice wounded, once at West Point and again





at Gaines' Mill. He followed Lee on both his raids into Maryland, fought at Gettysburg, and was sent with Longstreet to re-enforce Bragg at Chattanooga. He was in the battle of Chickamanga, and, on the night of October 28, 1863, was captured by the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth New York Regiment, (all Dutch), in Raccoon valley near Lookout mountain. He was sent to Camp Morton, Indianapolis, Indiana, but escaped from prison on the day that Lincoln was elected President the second time. He walked to Owensboro, Kentucky, where he joined Major Walker Taylor's command and remained with the Kentucky cavalry until the "break up" and was paroled by General Palmer.

Mr. Giles then returned to his home in Texas, and, in the spring of 1866, drove some cattle to Kansas, which he shipped from there to Chicago. He remained in Kansas and Missouri two years and on his return to Texas went to farming and was soon afterward appointed Deputy Sheriff of Travis county. In 1873, he removed to Austin, and was elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the Fourteenth Legislature. He next served as Public Weigher for two years, after which he received an appointment to a position in the Comptroller's Office, under Stephen Darden. He then served eight years in the General Land office, under Commissioner W. C. Walsh, his old army Captain.

Mr. Giles was married in 1873 to Miss Lulu Barnhart, a native of Travis county and a daughter of Joseph and M. E. (Smith) Barnhart, natives of Pennsylvania. Her father came to Texas in 1835, and settled in Austin, where he built the first log house. He soon traded this for an ox team and cart, with which to leave the country to escape the Indians. The family are of German descent.

The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Giles, John W. Smith, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Texas Independence, and was the last man to leave the Alamo for re-enforcements before it fell. Mr. and Mrs. Giles have two children, Val C. and Annie B. H. Mrs. Giles possesses an unusual amount of executive ability. She took charge of the Confederate Home enterprise when there was but \$67.50 to its credit, and succeeded in raising \$15,000 in various ways for its erection and support. As a result of her untiring efforts it has become a comfortable home for the old disabled Confederate soldiers, and is now the property of the State. She is one of nine who constitute the Texas Board of Directors of the World's Fair. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

In his political relations, Mr. Giles is a Democrat.



WASHINGTON HINE, an enterprising and successful farmer residing near Davilla, Milam county, is a native of Painesville, Ohio, and was born October 15, 1850. His father, Homer H. Hine, was also born in Ohio in 1823 and still resides there, being a large and successful farmer. Homer Hine, the father of Homer H. and grandfather of Washington Hine, was one of the early settlers of the Buckeye State moving there early in this century from Connecticut, which was his place of birth. He was a lawyer by profession and served several terms in the Ohio Legislature. He was of Irish extraction and his wife, whose maiden name was Skinner, was of English descent. The mother of Washington Hine, Julietta Rue before marriage, was a daughter of Jonathan and Cynthia Rue, and was born in Kentucky, December 25, 1824. She is still liv-



ing. Eight children were born to Homer H. and Julietta Hine of whom the subject of this notice was the third in age, the others being: Mary, the wife of Horace Bacon, of Painesville, Ohio; Sammel N., who died in infancy; Cynthia, the wife of William Doran, of Dallas, Texas; Anna L., the wife of Charles Field, of Cleveland, Ohio; Agnes, the wife of Minor G. Norton, of the same place; Clarence A. and Henrietta, both of Painesville, Ohio.

Washington Hine was reared on his father's farm in Ohio and in the public schools of his native place received his early education. At the age of eighteen, in 1868, he came to Texas, stopping at Independence, Washington county, where he remained a year, working at the carpenter's trade, when he moved to Milam county, continuing at his trade until 1872. In the meantime he purchased land in both this and Bell county and returning East entered Transylvania University at Lexington, Kentucky, where he completed his education after which he came back to Texas and again took up carpentering and followed it until his marriage, October 4, 1876. At that date he settled on his Bell county land and engaged in farming. After three years' residence in Bell county he traded his farm there for land adjoining that previously purchased by him in Milam county, and moving to this in 1879, he has continued to reside here since. He has a farm of nearly 600 acres including what he owns and controls, 120 acres of which is in a good state of cultivation and furnished with a superior class of farm improvements. In addition to raising the usual quantity of staple products he gives considerable attention to live-stock, his cattle herd embracing such strains as the Durham and Holstein. Mr. Hine has taken an active interest in every-

thing relating to farming and stock-raising since settling on the farm and has identified himself with every enterprise connected with the welfare of the community in which he lives. Formerly a Republican in politics he abandoned that organization on account of its centralizing and monopolistic tendencies and on the organization of the Farmers' Alliance joined that order with which he has affiliated since. In 1892 he was nominated and elected County Commissioner.

October 4, 1876, Mr. Hine married Miss Virginia L. Hill, who was born in Lee county this State, September 10, 1854, being a daughter of Green L. and Mary (Lanier) Hill. Mrs. Hine's father was a native of North Carolina, her mother a native of Virginia. Her parents came to Texas soon after the Texas Revolution and settled in the town of Bastrop where they lived for many years. Her father was a planter and before the war possessed considerable means. He died in Camp county, this State, July 2, 1881. He was twice married, his first wife, the mother of Mrs. Hine, dying September 26, 1859. By his two marriages he has sixteen children, fourteen by his first wife and two by his last. Mr. and Mrs. Hine have had born to them the following children: Clarence A., born July 12, 1877; Mary C., born November 28, 1881; Anna L., born September 1, 1885; Helen H., born September 29, 1888; Homer H., born November 1, 1890; and one not yet named, born September 26, 1892, besides two that died in infancy.



**S**OLON JOYNES.—Accomack county, Virginia, lying between Chesapeake bay and the Atlantic ocean on the extreme east coast of the "Old Dominion" was



the birth-place of Mr. Joynes, in which county his parents were also born. His father, John R. Joynes, was engaged in planting for many years in Accomack county, but as a resident in later life of the city of Norfolk, where he followed the business of ship-carpenter and joiner. He came to Texas in 1875 and died in Rockdale, June 11, 1881, in the seventy-second year of his age, having been born March 12, 1812. He came of old Virginia stock, the date his ancestors settled in the old State being so remote that it has not been preserved in the records or traditions of the family. He was a son of William Joynes who was also a planter of Accomack county and a soldier in the war of 1812.

Susan (Colonna) Joynes, the mother of the subject of this sketch was born in 1817 and died in 1854, being a daughter of William and Elizabeth Colonna, and an industrious, devout, good woman. Both father and mother were members of the Methodist Church.

Solon Joynes is the eldest of five children born to his parents, but is one of eight, there being three others by his father's second marriage. He was born April 26, 1838, and was reared principally in the city of Norfolk, whither his parents moved when he was young. His education was obtained in the private schools of Hampton and Norfolk. He entered a commission house at the latter place at the age of sixteen where he remained till the opening of the late war. He entered the Confederate army early in 1861, enlisting in the Norfolk Light Artillery Blues, with which he served in the army of Northern Virginia till the close of the war. He was literally "in the thick of the fight" throughout the entire struggle being present and taking part in all of the principal engagements that were fought on Virginia, Mary-

land and Pennsylvania soil and some naval engagements that occurred in that vicinity. His battalion opened the fire at the first battle of Fredericksburg and at Chancellorsville and was one of the first to take position at Gettysburg and Petersburg. He took part as a member of the land force in the engagement between the Merrimac and Monitor in Hampton Roads in 1862. At the fall of Petersburg he was taken prisoner and conveyed to Point Lookout where he was held until June, 1865.

The war over Mr. Joynes returned to Norfolk where he went to work in a commission house, and remained for ten months. He then came to Texas in the fall of 1866 and located at Galveston. At that place he resumed the commission business in partnership with his brother under the firm name of J. R. Joynes & Co., and remained there until the city was depopulated by the yellow-fever scourge of the following year. He then came out on the line of the Houston & Texas Central Railroad and followed the terminal of that road to Red river in north Texas, engaged in buying cotton and merchandising in connection with the firm of Littlefield & Company of Bryan. In 1873 he went to Hearne, the initial point of the International & Great Northern Railroad and following the terminal of that road west of the Rio Grande, engaged in the same business. He then located permanently in Rockdale and began his business on a settled basis and has since resided here. He weighed and shipped the first bale of cotton ever weighed and shipped out of the town, this being February 4, 1874, and since that time he has bought and shipped thousands and thousands of dollars' worth of the product besides handling a large amount of grain, machinery and implements.





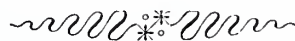
Mr. Joynes has been Commissioner of Milam county, Alderman of Rockdale, Mayor pro tem. of the City Council, President of the City School Board and was founder and first president of the Business Men's Association of Rockdale and has served in other official and semi-official capacities connected with the administration of town and county affairs. Whatever has been of interest to the people among whom he has lived he has actively interested himself in and has always borne his share of the expense of every public enterprise.

When he came to the State he was a single man. In 1872 he married Sophia, a daughter of J. W. McCown, Sr., and sister of J. W. McCown Jr., a sketch of whose lives appears elsewhere in this volume. This lady died in March, 1877, at the age of thirty-five leaving surviving her but one son, John W., who is now a student at the State University. April 29, 1879, Mr. Joynes married Florence, a daughter of Benjamin F. Hubert, an old settler of this State, mention of whom will be found in the sketch of Frank W. R. Hubert in this volume. By this marriage he has had three children: Hester, Susan C. and Cyrus McCormick.

Mr. and Mrs. Joynes are communicants of the Episcopal Church of which he is a Warden. He is also a member of the Knights of Honor, Uniform Rank, in which he is Senior Past Commander. He is an apprenticed Mason, and, in politics, a Democrat.

As a citizen, soldier, business man and public servant, Mr. Joynes' reputation is now fairly made, the record in a great measure being closed. He has always shown himself worthy of confidence reposed in him by his fellowmen and has labored without thought of reward, making duty his sole counsellor and guide in all that he has done. His has

been an unpretentious life, yet in years to come when the remote descendants of the first settlers of Rockdale look back among the records for the names of the "early fathers" it is doubtful if any of them will have reason to feel more sincere pride in the part taken by their "kith and kin" in the making of the city than his will have.



**W**ILLIAM B. WOODY, Postmaster of Rockdale, and secretary and general manager of the Rockdale Mining and Manufacturing Company, was born in Halifax county, Virginia, January 13, 1848. His parents were Samuel B. and Mary A. Woody, both of whom were also natives of the Old Dominion. Samuel B. Woody was a son of John and Mary Betts Woody, natives of Virginia. John Woody was a planter of the old *regime*, a man of wealth and influence, one who lived in elegant style and enjoyed the esteem and friendship of those among whom he lived. He died in 1841 at an advanced age. Mary Betts was a daughter of Captain Elisha Betts, also a Virginia planter and a soldier in the war of 1812, where he obtained his title by meritorious services. He died in 1866 at the advanced age of eighty; Mary Betts Woody died in 1857. Samuel B. Woody was the eldest of eight children born to his parents. He married Mary A. Blackwell, only child of William James Blackwell, both parents dying when she was an infant. She was born in 1828 and is still living, being now a resident of Louisville, Kentucky, where she makes her home with her son, Dr. S. E. Woody, Professor of Chemistry in the Kentucky School of Medicine. Samuel B. Woody was born in 1818 and died in 1855. He was a



planter. He inherited considerable property, to which he added by his own industry and good management, and left at his death a handsome estate. He had no public record, but was an official in the State militia, and in the days when that was one of the institutions of the land he was in military matters a figure of some consequence in his section of State.

Of the five sons of Samuel B. and Mary A. Woody, the subject of this notice was the second in age. He was reared in his native county, and what education fell to his lot was obtained at a private school at Harmony, Virginia. At the age of sixteen he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in December, 1864, in Wright's Battery of Heavy Artillery, with which he served in the Army of Northern Virginia during the remainder of the war, surrendering with General R. E. Lee at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, before he was eighteen years of age.

For a year following the close of the war, he remained at home. He then secured a clerkship in a mercantile establishment at Oxford, North Carolina, where he was employed for two years, after which he engaged in business for himself as a member of the firm of Bremer, Woody & Co., at Bloomsburg (now Turbeville), Virginia. From there, in 1875, he came to Texas, locating at Rockdale, which has since been his home. He has been variously engaged in this place. Until 1882 he was engaged in merchandising. He then became manager of the Kansas Manufacturing Company, with headquarters at Rockdale, which position he held until 1891, when he became president and general manager of the Southwestern Bridge Company, of Little Rock, Arkansas, and in February, 1892, secretary and general manager of the Rockdale Mining & Manufacturing Com-

pany, and in March, 1893, was appointed by President Cleveland Postmaster at Rockdale.

November 8 1870, Mr. Woody married Miss Mollie E. Walton, a daughter of Sidney E. Walton, of Bloomsburg, Virginia, and the issue of this union has been seven children, all of whom are living: Samuel S., John C., Willa B., Ruby W., Kate R., Helen V., and Carol.

Mr. Woody is a Democrat in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church here, of which organization he is Deacon, and has been since its foundation.



**D**R. HIRAM HENRY DARR, Caldwell, Texas, was born on the old Darr homestead in the vicinity of Yellow Prairie, Burleson county, this State, April 4, 1853.

Dr. Darr's parents, George and Kittie A. (Wooten) Darr, were natives of Tennessee and Virginia, respectively, the former born in 1797, and the latter in 1819. Both were in Texas at an early date, Mr. Darr certainly as early as 1825, and Mrs. Darr probably earlier. They met in what is now Brazos county, at the home of the latter's father, Dr. Thomas J. Wooten, and in 1837 they were married. As near as can now be determined they settled within the present limits of Burleson county, about 1840, and in this county spent the rest of their lives. They had seven children, the youngest of whom is the subject of this article.

Hiram Henry Darr was reared at the old home place, and received in the local schools and by private study a good general education. At the early age of seventeen (1870) he began to read medicine under the instructions of Dr. J. P. Oliver, of Caldwell, and graduated



at the Louisville Medical College, at the head of his class, February 25, 1875. He then took an *ad eundem* course at the Kentucky School of Medicine, graduating in that institution the following June. Locating at Hearne, this State, he entered at once upon the practice of his profession, and followed it successfully there until 1879. The winter of 1879-80 was spent in New York city, where, in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, he took a post-graduate course, giving special attention to diseases of the eye, ear and throat. Returning to Texas again, he this time located at Caldwell, in his native county, and here resumed the practice of his profession, which for thirteen years past he has pursued uninterruptedly and with marked success. He is a member of the following organizations, having joined them at the dates indicated by the figures in parentheses: Texas State Medical Association (1877), of which he has been once (1884) vice-President; American Public Health Association (1882); American Medical Association (1883); Burleson County Medical Society, which he helped to organize and of which he was first President (1885); Ninth International Medical Congress held at Washington (1885); National Association of Railway Surgeons (1891); and American Academy of Political and Social Science (1892), of which last organization he was elected a member before he was aware of the fact that his name had been presented that body for consideration. Dr. Darr has also been a member of the Medical Board of the Twenty-first Judicial District for ten years; has been the local surgeon of the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fé Railroad Company for ten years; has been County Physician of Burleson county for nine years; was for three years President of the Board of Trustees of the Public Schools of

Caldwell, and is now a member of the Board of Aldermen of this place. He has contributed but little to the literature of the profession, his time having been taken up almost to the exclusion of everything else with active practice. Two articles, however, contributed by him to the Columbus Medical Journal, one on dysentery, published in 1883, and one on typhilitis, published in 1889, are worthy of mention in this connection. Dr. Darr is the examiner-in-chief at Caldwell for the following life insurance companies: Equitable Life Insurance Society, of New York; New York Life Insurance Company; New York Mutual Life Insurance Society; New York Mutual Reserve Fund Life Insurance Society, Providence Savings Life Assurance Society, Union Central Life Insurance Society, of Cincinnati; Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Society, of Newark, New Jersey; Manhattan Life Insurance Company, Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, Imperial Life Insurance Company, of Detroit, Michigan; and the Knights and Ladies of Honor. The Doctor is a Knight Templar Mason, and a member of the Baptist Church.

October 25, 1881, he married Mrs. Lula Chiles, of Caldwell, and they have had four children, two of whom, Willie T. and George C., are living, Hiram Henry and an infant being deceased. To his family, his profession and the best interest of the community in which he resides, Dr. Darr is devoted without reservation, and as a physician and citizen stands deservedly high.

The foregoing facts show that the subject of this brief notice has done sufficient to entitle him to honorable distinction in the history of his State without resorting to family name and influence to assist him in this direction. But the following facts touching his ancestry are added for the benefit of his





children. His father, who in early life possessed an adventurous spirit, served in the Indian wars in the Northwest Territory and fought under General William H. Harrison at the battle of Tippecanoe. He also served in the war by which Texas won its independence, and took part in the battle of San Jacinto. A fearless, genial, unselfish man, fond of sport, possessing an accurate knowledge of woodcraft and a remarkable memory for names, faces and localities, he was well adapted for the life he led: that of the Indian fighter, citizen, soldier and pioneer, and in his day and generation discharged all the multifarious duties devolving upon him in the several capacities in which he was called to act. He died at his home in Burleson county, Texas, February 9, 1853. His wife survived him a number of years, dying at the same place, May 3, 1875. Only two of their seven children are now living, the Doctor and an older sister, Mrs. Sallie Downing, a resident of Burleson county.



**W** C. LAWHON, a wealthy farmer and enterprising citizen of Bastrop county, Texas, has had a useful career here and is well known and highly respected. Of his life we present the following *résumé*:

W. C. Lawhon was born in McNairy county, Tennessee, March 21, 1829, and when he was an infant was taken by his parents to Alabama. When he was eight years old they moved to Texas, that being in 1837. Six years they lived in Red River county, from there moved to Sabine county, and in 1844 came to Bastrop county, settling on Young's prairie, where, from wild land, they developed a farm. On this farm the

subject of our sketch grew to manhood. Of his educational opportunities it may be said that he had two years of schooling. He remained under the parental roof until 1854, when he married. In 1851 he began merchandising near where he now lives, and carried on business four years, at the end of which time he lost all his earthly possessions. Without capital, but with renewed energy, he started out again, determined to succeed. Buying a tract of raw land in the woods, he settled down to hard work, and ere long, his earnest efforts resulted in the development of a fine farm. He still lives on this place. As the years rolled by and prosperity smiled upon him, he purchased other lauds, until, at this writing, he is the owner of 1,915 acres in three different farms. He has 650 acres under cultivation, most of which he rents. Cotton and corn are his chief crops. In 1850 he built a store and opened out in business again, and for six years did a successful business, at the end of which time he closed out. In 1876 he built a steam-power gin and mill for public service, and for some time was also engaged in the manufacture of shingles.

Mr. Lawhon was elected a Justice of the Peace in 1866, and served for more than a dozen years, being re-elected from time to time. He also served four years as Tax Collector, and at the same time was County Commissioner and Notary Public. During the "late unpleasantness" he volunteered and served seven months, when, his health failing, he was discharged and returned home. After his health improved he was detailed as freighter for the Government, continuing as such until the close of the war. The war over, he resumed farming. During ten years of the time he served as Justice of the Peace he held inquests over



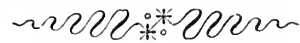
fifty-six dead bodies. He rendered 4,000 judgments, only two of which cases were ever appealed, and during that time he also married many couples. Few men in the county are better known than he, or stand higher in the estimation of the people. During his early life he did a great deal of hunting. The Indians were often committing depredations all around, but they never molested him.

Mr. Lawhon is a son of H. M. and Ann (Young) Lawhon, the former a native of Knoxville, Tennessee, and the latter of Georgia. The Lawhons are of Scotch-Irish descent. H. M. Lawson's youngest brother, David Lawhon, came to this State with Sam Houston, and with that noted pioneer edited the first paper in Texas, published at Nacogdoches. The father of our subject served throughout the Mexican war of 1846-7, and for many years was a Justice of the Peace here. He died at this place in 1876, at the age of seventy-two years, his wife having survived him until 1878. W. C. Lawhon was the second-born in their family of children, all of whom were in Texas, namely: Frances, who married Parson Rankins, is deceased; W. C.; Martha, wife of J. W. Whitaker, a Grayson county farmer; David, a farmer and Methodist minister of Burnet county; Mary A., wife of J. L. Wolf; Elizabeth, wife of J. W. Stanifer, is deceased; John M., a Baptist minister, resides in Grayson county; and Rachel, who died young.

Mr. Lawhon married Jane Stanifer, who was born in Bastrop county, Texas, January 14, 1839, daughter of J. W. Stanifer. Her father went from his native State, Illinois, to Alabama, where he married, and from whence, in 1828, he came to Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Lawhon had a family of fifteen

children, two of whom died in infancy. The others are as follows: Mary E., wife of J. T. Sanders, a Bastrop county farmer; Eliza, wife of J. W. Daley, deceased; John T., a book-keeper at Elgin, Texas; Arinda, wife of J. M. Braughton, is deceased; W. A., Charles P. and James A., engaged in farming in this county; C. E. and A. J., at home; Frances E., wife of W. P. Bird, a farmer of this county, and Emma, Louis and Sidney J., at home.

Fraternally, Mr. Lawhon is an I. O. O. F.; politically, a "dyed-in-the-wool" Democrat. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.



**D**AVID ALLDAY, of Jones prairie, Milam county, was born in Burke county, Georgia, September 7, 1831. His father, Peter Allday, was born in the same county and State, February 5, 1794, and was there reared. December 23, 1824, he married Louisa Ward, daughter of the Rev. Frank Ward, of Georgia, whose wife was a Miss Baton, whose ancestors settled and named Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Ward were: James, Charles, Frank, Gus, Louisa and Amelia.

Peter Allday enlisted for service in the war of 1812, but made only two days' march toward reinforcing Jackson, near New Orleans, when the news of that battle reached his ears. He returned to the farm, and there engaged in farming till 1855, when he came to Texas, settling in Milam county, where he died May 21, 1867, still engaged in farming till his death. He possessed good judgment, but never accumulated a great deal of property. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Church, and was much





*J. H. Shibley*





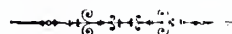
noted for his piety. He never used an oath in his life nor indulged in strong drink. His father, grandfather of the subject of this notice, was at one time Sheriff of Burke county, Georgia, in the days when branding criminals was in vogue.

Peter Allday's children were: Absalom Pryor, born September 20, 1825, now a physician of Robertson county, Texas; Francis Asberry, who was born July 5, 1829, and who is supposed to have died in the Confederate army; David, the subject of this notice; Ann, deceased, was first married to Daniel Moore, and had two children, and secondly married J. R. Jones; Richard Arnold, who was born July 7, 1836, and was killed in Arizona during the late war; James Augustus, who was born September 25, 1838, died in the Confederate army; Charles, born February 5, 1841, now a Methodist minister in Alabama; Peter R., who was born April 30, 1844, and died November 25, 1861, in the Confederate army; Mary B., born November 18, 1845, is now the wife of William M. Taylor; Amelia F., born December 1, 1847, is the widow of Anderson Jones; Lonisa Lodema, born July 29, 1850, is now the wife of James Jones, of Davilla, Milam county.

Just before Christmas, 1855, David Allday came to Texas, having left Georgia and proceeded overland, crossing the Mississippi river at Natchez. The seven wagons of the company were bound for Waco, but the party were induced by Doctor Allday, who was then living at Port Sullivan, Milam county, and who was familiar with the country, to settle near the mouth of Pond creek, in this county. The land was bought of the Rev. Rufus C. Burleson, the eminent Baptist minister, who for many years was president of the Baylor University. Mr. Allday engaged in farming from 1855 to 1861, when

he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in a company raised mainly in Robertson county, which was attached to the Eighth Regiment, under Colonel Young. The command operated west of the Mississippi, and participated in a number of engagements in Arkansas and Louisiana, among the series of fights following Banks' Red river campaign. In the spring of 1865 the army returned to Texas, and at the close of hostilities was disbanded at Hempstead. Mr. Allday's first real-estate purchase was in Milam county, and consisted of 132 acres. He now owns 275 acres, and is cultivating 125. The average annual yield of his farm is from twenty-five to thirty bales of cotton, and other products in proportion.

He was married December 14, 1865, to Miss Sarah L., daughter of McClem Taylor. This union was blessed with eight children: James, born September 28, 1866; Emma, born December 11, 1868; Peter McClem, born November 18, 1870; John, born September 20, 1872; William D., born August 4, 1876; Janie, born April 14, 1878; Roxie, born January 3, 1883, and Charles, born March 31, 1888. Mrs. Allday died April 9, 1892. The family are connected with the Missionary Baptist Church.



**R**EV. JAMES H. STRIBLING, D. D., was born in Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, September 27, 1822. His parents, Benjamin H. and Ruth B. Stribling, were natives of South Carolina, but married in Alabama in 1820. Benjamin H. was a brother of the distinguished admiral, C. K. Stribling, of the United States Navy. James H. was reared on a farm and among the hills, forests and streams of Pickens



county, Alabama. At about six years of age he entered a country school, where two years were spent learning to read, write and spell. After this, three months in the summer of each year, when the crops were laid by, until he was grown to manhood, afforded his early educational advantages. The benefit of the three months and meager training were nearly lost in the other nine, so that no great progress could be made. His fondness for reading was developed at an early age, with very limited means for its gratification. A weekly paper, a history of the United States, Plutarch's Lives, and such books as could be had at a neighborhood library, made up the supply in reach, and these had to be read by pine-torch light. Lamps and candles were luxuries not to be thought of. A neighborhood debating society for boys and young men, in which he took a lively interest, more than anything else served to direct his reading and awaken thought. He early aspired to engage in public life as a lawyer or politician. Political campaign discussions, in which he took great interest, were to him a valuable educational factor. From all these sources, limited as they were, and an effort to study such school branches, as English grammar, and so forth, at home, were gathered the golden grains of knowledge that became the seeds of a perpetual harvest from which all along in after life he made large and valuable distributions from the pulpit, the press, and the social circle.

The boyhood life of young Stribling was greatly stirred by the exciting events of the Seminole war. The gathering of squads, companies and regiments around his native home in Alabama, the news of the massacres, atrocities and battles in Florida by the Indians fired the whole country with martial spirit that aroused the boys as well as the

men. About the same time the independence of Texas had been declared and the glowing descriptions of this new found, paradise were attracting much attention. This became, after a while, the news of the day, and the theme of the family circle at night. By 1840 the father, mother and James, the eldest of the twelve children, had become so interested in Texas that a removal was determined on, and in the following year they turned their steps toward the Lone Star Republic. Their destination was Washington county, the garden spot of the country. In September, 1842, James entered the Texas army to repel the Mexican invasion of that year, and remained till January, 1843. After a three years' residence in Washington county the family moved to Lavaca county, where they settled, and the father died seven or eight years later. James remained and taught school for a few months in Washington county. Early religious impressions, which were renewed and deepened from time to time by the piety and life of a Christian father and mother, Bible readings, preaching and revivals, culminated during this year (1843) in a determination on his part to devote his life to the ministry. In September he was baptized by the Rev. W. M. Tryon, and united with the Providence Baptist Church in Washington county. About a year after this he was licensed and began to preach. The need of more education was constantly impressed on his mind, and in May, 1846, his name was enrolled among the first twenty-four students that entered Baylor University. He remained in school till December, 1849, when he was ordained to the ministry. He spent the year 1850 as a missionary west of the Colorado river in southwest Texas. In January, 1851, he began his first pastorate with the Baptist Church at



Gonzales. This continued about seven years. It was during this pastorate, September 21, 1852, on a bright, happy evening, that Rev. J. T. Powell, at the residence of Colonel L. Cleveland, celebrated the rites of matrimony between Rev. J. H. Stribling and Miss J. L. Cleveland. During this time a house of worship was built, among the best in western Texas at that period, costing \$5,000. Against repeated entreaties to remain, this pastorate was resigned and that of Wharton and Caney churches, near each other, was accepted. After two years here duty pointed to a change, and the pastorate of the first church at Galveston was accepted and entered upon in May, 1860. This was a congenial field, but the commotions of the war and the blockade compelled a resignation and the return of Mr. Stribling to his former field for a time.

In September, 1863, Mr. Stribling accepted the pastorate of the church at Anderson, and labored there with much success for ten years. Not only Anderson, but many neighboring fields and churches shared his labors during this period. At the close of the war in 1865 he was one of the only three Baptist ministers in the State who were relying entirely on the ministry for a support. Declining health made a change of field necessary. He was called to Tyler and entered upon his labors there in September, 1873. It was here at his suggestion and earnest instance that Major W. E. Penn began his labors that have since been blessed in Texas and other States. But, notwithstanding the rich spiritual harvest in this pastorate and its congenial surroundings, it was here that the darkest shadow fell upon Dr. Stribling's pathway. The companion of his youth, his helper, stay and comfort all along the journey of life was called from him. For

over twenty years she had been the light and joy of his heart and home, and the guardian angel of his household. Hospitable to strangers, kind to all, an example of piety and faith, she had not only been a companion to him but a benediction to every church and community where they had lived. But here also another came to fill the empty void, to be a mother to his children, and one who comforted, cheered and encouraged him in every good word and work. He married Mrs. S. A. Hand in Tyler, in 1874.

Dr. Stribling spent over seven years in Tyler, and did a great work for the people of that city and community. His next pastorate was his shortest, but occupied most of the year 1881 at Calvert. He located at Rockdale and began regular service with the church in January, 1882. He held this charge until his death, somewhat over ten years later. He thus gave to the ministry nearly fifty years of his life, during which time he held charges in widely scattered localities, and performed all the multifarious duties devolving on one in his position. He preached, as nearly as can be estimated, 4,000 sermons, and delivered as many exhortations and addresses. He held over 200 protracted meetings, in which over 3,000 persons professed conversion. He solemnized over 300 marriages and baptized over 1,200 persons, and traveled in every mode 30,000 miles in Texas. Among his published sermons was one on "Sunday Schools," one delivered at the funeral of T. J. Jackson, a memorial discourse before the Masonic fraternity, and a sermon on "Future Punishment," that attracted wide attention at the time, and these are deserving of a place in the archives of the church. Besides, many newspaper articles appeared from his pen from time to time,—among them a discussion on "Human Depravity," "Sketches





of Travel," and essays on "The Reciprocal Duties of Pastors and Churches," and "How Ministers Should Treat Each Other."

His honorary title of D. D. was conferred by Baylor University at Independence about 1871. During a ministry of forty-eight years Dr. Stribling never turned aside to any other pursuit or calling for support, but devoted his entire life to his one great work. This work, however, was not restricted to the narrow circle of pastoral duties, but took in the wide field of denominational endeavor and extended to all lines of Christian usefulness. He was a regular attendant on all the associational and general meetings of the church and was especially active in behalf of the educational interests of the localities where he labored. He was for four years Moderator of the Sunday-school and Colportage Convention, and very often Vice-President of the State Convention and President of the Ministers' Conference.

Dr. Stribling was regarded as an able and eloquent preacher, an active and effective worker in whatever he undertook, and a man who by his piety, his honest, gentle ways, endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact. One noticeable thing about his conduct was his uniformly genial manner and his disposition to spread happiness wherever he went. His life, taken in all its bearings, was a sermon more radiant with beauty than any he ever preached, eloquent as he grew at times in the pulpit, for it was the perfection in practice of those virtues and graces which form the flower of Christianity and command for it respect even among those who deny the teachings of the Bible. After a life so spent, and, as one may say, fully rounded out in Christian grace and usefulness, Dr. Stribling died on the 12th of August, 1892, while on a visit to Eureka Springs, Arkansas,

whither he had gone for the benefit of his health. His remains were brought to his home at Rockdale, where they were laid to rest. His loss was deeply mourned by the people of this place, who testified to the esteem in which he was held in this community by a large attendance at his funeral and by numerous expressions of condolence with his bereaved family. The local orders with which he had been connected passed appropriate resolutions.

Dr. Stribling, as has been stated, was twice married. He had six children by his first marriage who reached maturity, there being none of the second union. These in the order of their ages are: Mrs. Kate Gentry, wife of W. A. Gentry, of Rockdale; Mrs. Ruth Witcher, wife of Hugh L. Witcher, of the same place; James H., who died January 15, 1891; Cleveland, of Rockdale; Mrs. Fannie Morrison, wife of W. A. Morrison, of Anson, Jones county, this State; and Cornelius K., of Rockdale.

Rev. Dr. F. M. Law, who had known Dr. Stribling for more than thirty years, said of him not long before his death: "In the earlier years of his ministry his preaching was full of unction and pathos. When I came to Texas in 1859, there was no more popular preacher in the State. Universal confidence in his piety and purity of life gave special emphasis to his preaching."

Rev. Dr. Rufus C. Burleson, who had known Dr. Stribling an even greater length of time, and who preached a sermon of exceptional strength and pathos on the death of his old friend, said; "What man or angel can estimate the value of the life of such a man spent in the formative era of an empire State like Texas. When he began to preach in 1844, there were only about 1,000 Baptists in Texas; when he closed his glorious



career, August 12, 1892, he left a grand army of 218,000 Baptists, all thoroughly organized for effective work in missions, Sunday-schools, colportage, Christian education, homes for orphans and our aged preachers. No man living or dead did more to attain this glorious increase than did Brother Stribling."



**A**M. VANDIVERE, a farmer of Jones prairie, Milam county, was born in Calhoun county, Georgia, March 31, 1847, and is a son of Imorene E. Vandivere, who was born in South Carolina in 1816. Imorene E. Vandivere was a son of Matthew Vandivere, who was born in South Carolina in 1785. Matthew Vandivere married a Miss Nelms of South Carolina, who bore him six children, four sons, Alphonzo, Almorene, Alford and Albert, and two daughters, Artimesia, who was married to Joseph Williams, and Desdemona, who was married to Blair Echols. The elder Vandivere was a Baptist minister, as were also two of his sons, Almorene and Albert, and devoted most of his life to the service of his church, having also served in the war of 1812. He moved early in this century to Georgia, where he labored till his death, which occurred in 1857. Almorene E. Vandivere was reared in Georgia and received his education in the select schools of that State, enjoying the privilege of a three years' course at Mercer University, then located at old Penfield and the chief educational institution of the State. He became converted and joined the church at the age of twenty-two, and three years later entered the ministry. In 1838 he married Sarah McDow of Cass county, Georgia, and in 1855 moved to Alabama, where he joined the Alabama Asso-

ciation and was assigned by the Missionary Board of that association as missionary to the Creek Indians. He continued actively engaged in gospel labors in the Creek territory until the opening of the late war, when he came to Texas. Settling his family at Waco, he entered the Confederate service, and from 1861 to 1865 was variously employed in the commissary and transportation departments in this State, continuing his gospel labors among the soldiers, to whom he preached whenever and wherever occasion offered. After the war and until his death he held regular charges, being the pastor at Huntsville, Walker county, and at Independence, Washington county, and at Port Sullivan, Cameron, North Elm, Little River Church and Rockdale, Milam county. He became a resident of Milam county in 1868 and remained a resident of this county till his death, which occurred ten years later. He was a zealous minister and excellent citizen, and many of the people of this county, especially in the vicinity of Little River Church, where he was longest stationed, have occasion to remember him with gratitude for his faithful services. He was buried at Little River Church, which marked the field of his most earnest labors. His wife died in 1875 in Milam county, and was also buried at Little River burying ground. Their children, five in number, are: Fannie, the wife of Rev. W. J. Glazener of this county, who has been a minister of the Baptist Church thirty-eight years; Artimissia, who was married to Rev. H. F. Buckner, who was a missionary among the Creek Indians for thirty-eight years, and died and was buried among the people; Desdemona, who died at the age of fourteen, and was buried in Clark county, Arkansas, in 1860; Alcidadons M., the subject of this sketch, and Alford B. R., who lives in the Indian Territory.



A. M. Vandivere was reared mainly in Alabama. Accompanying his parents to Texas in 1861, he entered the Confederate service here two years later, enlisting in May, 1863, in the Fourth Arizona Cavalry for frontier service in Texas. He served on the border from that date till the close of hostilities. For three years after the war he was variously engaged, attending school part of the time at Baylor University, then at Independence. He came with his parents to Milam county in 1868, and settled on a farm near Maysfield, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, first with his father, and later alone, and there he has since resided. In 1868 Mr. Vandivere was united in marriage to Miss Annie McKinney, a daughter of Jasper McKinney, one of Milam county's old citizens, and a sister of Hon. J. M. McKinney, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. To this union one child has been born: Bulah, now the wife of I. R. Glenn.

Mr. and Mrs. Vandivere are members of the Baptist Church, having held a membership in the Little River Baptist Church about twenty-two years. He is also a Mason, as was his father, both being active, zealous members, belonging to Little River Lodge No. 397. Mr. Vandivere is a Democrat, as was his father before him, staunch in the support of the principles of the party and loyal to its nominees.



**E** M. SCARBROUGH, senior member of the firm of Scarbrough & Hicks, merchants of Rockdale and Austin, was born in Calhoun county, Alabama, May 19, 1846. He was reared in his native county to the age of seventeen, when, in June, 1864, he entered the Confederate army,

enlisting in Company A, Fifty-first Alabama Cavalry, with which he served during the remainder of the war. From 1865 to 1867 he resided in Alabama, engaged in farming and other pursuits. He then came to Texas, and stopping at Bryant's Station, Milam county, clerked for the firm of Hale & Evans, merchants of that place, until 1870. At that date Hale & Evans moved to Hearne, Mr. Scarbrough accompanying them and remaining in their employ for about four years. With the arrival of the International & Great Northern Railway at Rockdale, in February, 1874, the firm of Hale & Co. which had been formed a few months previous, opened a store in Rockdale, Mr. Scarbrough taking an interest in the business and becoming the silent partner of the firm. The partnership lasted until the death of General Hale, in 1882, when, his estate having been wound up, the firm of Scarbrough & Hicks was formed, Mr. R. H. Hicks, who had been with Hale & Co. for some years as book-keeper, becoming a partner in interest. Mr. Scarbrough gave his attention actively to the business with which he was connected at Rockdale until 1889, when, for reasons other than of a business nature, he moved to Austin. For about four years he lived somewhat in retirement, but in February, 1893, opened a dry goods and men's furnishing house in Austin, to which he is now devoting his time and attention. The houses of Scarbrough & Hicks at Austin and Rockdale, are two of the strongest mercantile establishments in central Texas, and stand, each in its respective place, at the head of the business interests of those cities.

November 7, 1877, Mr. Scarbrough married Miss Ada R. Ledbetter, a daughter of Isaac and Julia Ledbetter, who moved to Texas in 1853, settling in Milam county.





Mrs. Scarbrough was born in this county, July 1, 1857, and was here reared. On the death of her mother in 1864, she, with her twin sister, Ida, now Mrs. Dr. E. J. Powell, of Maysfield, Milam county, was given to an older sister, Mrs. Lizzie Wilson, by whom both were reared, receiving every advantage that Mrs. Wilson's ample means and social position could obtain for them. After her marriage Mrs. Scarbrough entered at once, with all the ardor and devotion of an intelligent and affectionate nature, into the plans and purposes of her husband, and for fourteen and a half years she bore him a faithful companionship. She died May 24, 1892. The cause of her death was an hereditary trouble developed by an attack of la grippe during the winter of 1890-'91. This attack left her with a cough, which, even under the best medical treatment and most skillful nursing, refused to be cured. Knowing of the hereditary lung trouble in the family, steps were early taken to prevent the cough from running into an attack on the seat of vitality, two special examinations by the family physician and one by two of the most eminent physicians of the State being made, and other measures, including a trip north during the summer of 1891, being taken for her relief. But all efforts failed, and after a lingering illness covering several months, during which time she had every attention demanded by her condition, being attended constantly by the best physicians, by her family and numerous lady friends of Austin and Rockdale, she passed away. She left five children. The four eldest were born in Rockdale: Emerson M., September 3, 1878; Julia McKay, October 25, 1879; Ada Pearl, February 17, 1881; John W., October 20, 1885; the youngest, Lemuel, was born in Austin, September 13, 1889.

Wherever he has resided Mr. Scarbrough has always been identified with the best interest around him. He was a member of the Board of Aldermen of Rockdale, Mayor of the town, Chairman of the School Board, and active and liberal in his efforts in behalf of the public good.

Having met with more than the average measure of success, he appreciates and rates at their true value his accumulations, and wisely uses them for his own and the good of others. He has given financial aid to a number of young men of his acquaintance, enabling them to make successful starts in business, and has in other instances lent aid to young men in securing educational advantages. He has thus created enduring friendships among young men of his acquaintance and opened the way to a number of successful and honorable careers.



**J** J. GASSAWAY, of Jones Prairie, Milam county, was born in Talbot county, Georgia, in 1829, and when eight years of age his parents removed to Harris county, that State, where he resided until nearly grown. He was a farmer's boy and secured only such education as was afforded by the common country schools. At the age of twenty (1849) he went to Louisiana, locating in what was then Claiborne, now Webster parish, where he commenced life for himself as an overseer, which occupation he followed for four years. By economy and industry he was enabled to lay up a small sum of money with which he embarked in farming, following the same peacefully until the troublous times of 1861. The second year of the war he enlisted in the Minden Rangers, which was a company raised in



Claiborne parish, and commanded by Captain "Fed" Wimberly. This command was placed on detached service, doing body guard and escort duty and hunting up deserters. On the expeditions undertaken by this command plenty of short, hot engagements at close hand were the order of the day for many consecutive days in the enemy's vicinity. It was lucky enough to escape with the loss of only one man during the entire expeditions, that being at Inka, Mississippi, when the regiment was cut off and attacked singly. Their surrender occurred at the close of the war at Gainesville, Alabama. At the close of the war Mr. Gassaway returned home and engaged again in agriculture. Desiring a more open country for his operations, he came to Texas in 1874, settling in Milam county, where he has since resided.

Mr. Gassaway is a son of James Gassaway, who was born in Georgia in 1782, where he became a large and successful farmer and at death left a good estate. He was an industrious, moral, good man and made a lasting and favorable impression on his descendants. He married Eliza, a daughter of David Lockett, of Georgia, whose wife was Mary Wommack. Mrs. Gassaway was one of nine children as follows: Abner, James, Kittie, Sallie, Tyra, Ellington, Eliza, (mother of our subject), Mary and Martha. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Gassaway were as follows: David, who married Miss Rebecca Eaves, daughter of L. P. Eaves; John; Abner; Naney Ann, who was married to Freeman Rozier; and T. J., our subject. James Gassaway died in 1843, and his wife in 1855.

T. J. Gassaway married Susan Fuller, who was born in Georgia, a daughter of Elder James Fuller, then a resident of Claiborne, now Webster parish, Louisiana. Mr. and Mrs. Gassaway were the parents of the fol-

lowing children: James; Mary, wife of W. H. Smith, of Limestone county, and John. Mrs. Gassaway died in 1855, and two years later Mr. Gassaway married Mrs. S. A. Pond, the widow of William A. Pond, who was born in Alabama and came to Texas in 1858. Her maiden name was Howell. By her first marriage Mrs. Gassaway became the mother of these children: Rosy, wife of Henry C. White; Lucy, wife of Samuel Smith; George; Emma, who married W. J. Myrick; Tennessee, wife of Samuel McCrary, of Robertson county; Minnie, wife of C. C. Cargill, of Jones prairie, and Monie. The family have a fine farm of 360 acres, 140 acres of which are in a good state of cultivation. In 1891 thirty-six bales of cotton were produced and in 1892 the same amount. Stock is raised on this farm for home use only. The Baptist Church is the denomination with which the family are connected and in which they are efficient and prominent members.



**H**ENRY C. WHITE, a prominent farmer of Jones prairie, was born in Leon county, Texas, in 1846. He is a son of Joseph White, a large planter of Milam, and one of her most substantial pioneers. Joseph White was born in Perry county, Tennessee, in 1824. His father, Robert White, is quite fully mentioned in the sketch of Calvin C. White in this volume, and he married a Miss Coburn, and twelve children were born to them, as follows: Griffy, deceased; Naney, who married John Garrett; Hedley, deceased; Sarah, who married Jacob Stigall; Henry, now living in San Saba county, Texas; Hester, deceased, married John McAdams; Elijah, deceased; Joseph; Siltha, deceased, married Jackson



Jones; Mary, deceased, married J. R. Jones; Sanders, a resident of Leon county; and an infant who died.

The father of our subject, Joseph White, is not an educated man, in fact he grew up when school-houses were considered somewhat of a novelty in Texas, and when private teachers were partakers of the hospitality of those only who could afford luxuries. At the age of seventeen Mr. White married, and undertook the battle of life with a few head of horses and cattle as his only capital. In 1844 he settled where he now lives, on Jones prairie, making a hundred acre purchase. He has re-invested some of his profits in real estate, owning now 720 acres and cultivating 300 acres of it. He produces a large amount of cotton annually, enough to warrant his owning and operating a gin, with which he does work for the public also.

Mr. White was very extensively engaged in the stock business both before and after the war, closing out about 1868. Out of this he made his greatest profit. When he entered the army his large herd of cattle was left without a protector and to shift for itself, and as a consequence many were lost, the year 1863 being especially disastrous because of the severe drouth, his loss being 1,000 head. The Brazos and Little rivers were the only streams furnishing water, and the cattle were worried out going the long distance to and from it.

In 1862 Joseph White went into the Confederate army, entering Alfred Johnson's spy company, which was captured at Arkansas Post, at which time, luckily for him, Mr. White was absent, being at home on a furlough. Upon his return to service he joined Colonel Duff's regiment, which operated in the Indian Nation and the Trans-Mississippi Department generally. The only fight in

which he participated was one in Arkansas while he was connected with the spy company.

In 1841 Mr. White was married to Miss Sarah, the daughter of William Comstock, of Louisiana, and of this union were born the following children: Henry C., our subject; Albert; William; Robert; Elijah, deceased; James; Emma, the wife of Thomas Roberts; Mary, the wife of Dred Massengale; Adlee, the wife of Thomas Estes; and Sallie.

Henry C. White was only partially educated, the common school system being yet in its infancy. Until the age of eighteen he might have been seen the most of his time armed with a whip and spur astride of a Texas pony. At this age he entered the army, under Captain Wayman and Colonel Duff, and his service was on the Rio Grande until the fall of 1864 and the spring of 1865, when he was transferred to the eastward as far as Missouri. One little engagement at Cabin creek, was all of the real glory our subject obtained out of his service. The command was disbanded at, or near, Port Sullivan in Milam county. Since the war Mr. White has devoted his time to agriculture. He purchased a 200-acre tract and upon this he now resides, and 170 acres of this he has under cultivation, getting, in 1891, sixty-four bales of cotton and an increase of sixteen bales in 1892.

In 1871 Mr. White married Miss Rhoda, the daughter of Rev. Mr. McHorse, of Williamson county. There are no living children of this union, and Mrs. White died in 1873. One year later Mr. White married Miss Harriet Ann Stockman, of Alabama, and no children of this union yet survive, and in 1876 our subject again mourned the loss of a companion. His third and last marriage occurred in 1878, to Miss Rosy, a daughter





of William A. Pond, whose widow is now Mrs. T. J. Gassaway. Mr. and Mrs. White's children are: William A., deceased; Anna; Sallie; Joseph; Ora, deceased; Robert; Rosy; and Henry. Mrs. White is connected with the Baptist Church.

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**W**ILLIAM E. BOUCHELLE, a farmer of Williamson county, Texas, was born in North Carolina, February 3, 1832. His father, Dr. Thomas S. Bouchelle, also born in that State on June 25, 1802, was a physician by profession, and his death occurred in Marengo county, Alabama. He was a son of Dr. Thomas Bouchelle, a native of Maryland, whose father was a surgeon in Washington's army during the Revolutionary war. The mother of our subject, *nee* Clarinda J. E. Finlay, was a native of North Carolina, and was a daughter of Major John Finlay, a native of Pennsylvania. Dr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Bouchelle had seven children, two of whom came to Texas, one of these (John M.) being now engaged in farming near Killeen, Bell county.

William E. Bouchelle, the subject of this sketch, lived with his widowed mother until nineteen years of age, after which he clerked in a store in Boone county, Missouri, six months. In November, 1851, he arrived in Texas, coming by water to Houston, and by stage to Bastrop, where he followed carpentering two years. He next followed the same occupation in Austin until 1854, in which year he came to Georgetown and bought land. In the same year he returned to Austin, and in 1855 came again to Williamson county, where he began improving his farm on Berry's creek, but shortly afterward sold that place, and in 1859 purchased and moved to his present farm.

On the outbreak of the war, in 1861, he was one of the first to enlist in a company to take the forts of the frontier, entering the army for three months, and was elected Second Lieutenant. He afterward resigned his position and returned home, where he assisted in raising a company for the Confederate regular army, of which he was elected Second Lieutenant, and which was ordered to Waco to a camp of instruction. This company afterward became a member of a cavalry regiment raised by Colonel William H. Parsons, which was the first mustered into State service and was subject to the Governor's orders, and which, after much drilling, was ordered to Sim's Bayou to guard the railroad below Houston. In the spring of 1862 it was mustered into the Confederate service for twelve months, as the Twelfth Texas Cavalry, and took up the line of march for Little Rock, Arkansas, where it reported to General Holmes, who had orders to reduce the numbers of the overflowing cavalry companies, reorganize and muster in for the end of the war, and to encourage the enlistment of infantry. Mr. Bouchelle, with some other officers and privates, after seeing that the companies were full, took advantage of the situation to come home to look after the welfare of their families and help to raise more troops for the end of the war. He enlisted again as private in Company C, Seventh Texas Cavalry, Sibley's brigade, afterward better known as Green's brigade, and, being ordered to Houston, was present at the retaking of Galveston, when the steamer *Harriet Lane* was captured. Ordered thence to Louisiana, he took part in nearly all the battles and skirmishes in which this regiment was engaged in that State. He was in the battles of Mansfield, or Sabine Cross Roads, and Pleasant Hill, and participated in all of that



notable Red River campaign, until the close of the great struggle. In this engagement he served his company as Orderly Sergeant, and at the time of the surrender he was Assistant Regimental Commissary Sergeant.

Mr. Bouchelle drafted the constitution and by-laws of the ex-Confederate Association of Williamson county, and has great respect for honest, patriotic soldiers, whether they wore the blue or the gray.

Mr. Bouchelle takes an active interest in the Democratic party, and has held the office of Justice of the Peace three years, and that of County Commissioner two years.

He has been thrice married; first, to Mary Williams, a daughter of John Williams, who came to Williamson county, Texas, in 1848. She died in 1865, before Mr. Bouchelle returned from the surrender. In the same year he married Bethany E. Duley, who died in 1867. April 12, 1870, he was united in marriage to Margaret Mastin, a native of North Carolina. Mr. Bouchelle has two adopted children, aged respectively nine and eleven years.

Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and religiously both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**J** E. LONGMOOR, cashier of the First National Bank of Rockdale, Milan county, was born in Kenton county, Kentucky, January 14, 1854. He was reared in his native State and West Virginia, in the schools of which he received his early education, finishing in the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, Virginia. In 1874 he came to Texas, and the year following located at Rockdale, which has since been his home. For eighteen years he has been connected

with the banking interests of this place. He began his career as a banker here in the usual way, taking the position of bookkeeper in the private banking house of Tracy & Brother, and holding such preferment until that house went out of existence. Then for six years he was bookkeeper and for eight years manager of the Rockdale bank, when, in January, 1890, in company with a number of the business men of Rockdale, he organized the First National Bank of this place, of which he became cashier, and has since held this position. The First National is the only bank that Rockdale now has, the Rockdale bank, the pioneer institution of the town, having gone into voluntary liquidation on January 1, 1892. For some time before the movement that resulted in the organization of a new bank here took any definite form there had been noted among the merchants and business men of the community a growing demand for better banking facilities, and the present bank was the practical response of a few of the more enterprising men of the place to this demand. The bank was organized with a paid-up capital of \$75,000. This was subscribed for in varying amounts by the principal mercantile firms of the town, and the bank started off propitiously. Its progress since has been all that was anticipated. Its average deposits have risen from nothing to \$100,000 annually, reaching as high as \$125,000 during the cotton season. It has declared a dividend of five per cent. semi-annually, and it numbers among its patrons all of the business men of Rockdale, with a fair share of the larger farmers and stockmen in the western and southern part of Milan county. Its facilities and equipments are ample, and it enjoys, to the fullest extent, the confidence of all classes of citizens. For this condition of things it is indebted in a



large measure to Mr. Longmoor, who has given to its affairs his unreserved attention since it first opened its doors for business. Mr. Longmoor's experience has been such as to qualify him in an eminent degree for the successful discharge of his duties in this position, while his reputation as a man is beyond reproach. He is well known to many of Texas' leading bankers and monied men, among whom his standing is of the first rank. He assisted in organizing the Texas State Bankers' Association in August, 1885, and was elected Secretary in 1892 and re-elected in 1893. He has always taken an active interest in the banking and monetary affairs of the State, and he read before the Bankers' Association at Waco in 1892 an essay on the subject of country banks and cotton buyers, for which he received many flattering encomiums, both for the soundness of the views expressed and for the literary merits of his paper.

Mr. Longmoor has manifested an equal interest in matters of concern to the locality where he lives, giving such aid as his means would allow, and lending his personal efforts to the promotion of all enterprises calculated to stimulate the industry of his town and county and further its general welfare. To say that he is a Kentuckian is equivalent to saying that he is, at least to some extent, somewhat of a politician. He has been a delegate to the usual number of county and district conventions, and was also a delegate to the Democratic State convention held at Houston in August, 1892, that nominated Governor Hogg for a second term, and was an active and enthusiastic supporter of the Governor, as well as the rest of the State ticket throughout the late heated campaign. He has served as a member of the Democratic committee of Milam county, and was

president of the Rockdale Democratic Club. He is the treasurer of Lodge No. 507, Knights of Honor, of Rockdale, and a member of the uniform rank of the same order in the United States Commandery No. 1, this being the first chartered order of this kind in this degree in the United States.

December 20, 1877, Mr. Longmoor married Miss Bessie Joynes, daughter of Colonel J. R. Joynes, then residing in Rockdale, but originally from Virginia, in which State Mrs. Longmoor was born and reared, coming of old Virginia ancestry. An account of her parentage appears in the sketch of Solon Joynes, her brother, elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Longmoor have had born to them four children: Hugh W., J. Earle, Stanley A. and Grace.

Mr. Longmoor's parents were natives of Kentucky, the father, Hugh P. Longmoor, having been born in Boone county, that State, in 1824, and the mother in Mason county in 1827. They were reared and married in their native State. The father served in the Mexican war and in some minor expeditions against the Indians, but never sought any high military or civil honors. He was trained for a banker and was engaged for some years in early life in banking, but, having a natural taste for studies in physics and chemistry, he turned his attention while yet a young man to the investigation of the natural resources of his native State, and in time became an oil refiner and producer of wide repute. This was before these products had elicited the interest of scientific investigators or excited the cupidity of money-makers. The processes of producing and refining and the methods of distribution were yet in their infancy. Mr. Longmoor did a vast deal toward developing the coal fields of Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.





He had a large circle of friends and business associates in these three States, and he died greatly lamented by these. His death occurred in 1878, and his remains were buried at Covington, Kentucky, where rest those of his parents. He met with a reasonable degree of financial success, but did not reap the rewards from his labors which he might have done had he been less conscientious and more thrifty (as others were) in using his opportunities for personal ends. He was a man of chivalric sense of honor, great integrity and lofty aspiration. He spent the latter part of his life amidst conditions that tried men's principles.

Elizabeth (Slack) Longmoor, wife of Hugh P. Longmoor, and mother of the subject of this notice, was a daughter of Colonel Jacob A. Slack, of Mason county, Kentucky, a highly-respected citizen, and in his day a prominent politician of his State, being a stalwart Jackson Democrat. He served in both branches of the Kentucky Legislature. Mrs. Longmoor was a lady of great intelligence and refinement and a devout Christian, being for many years a zealous member of the Presbyterian Church. She died at Parkersburg, West Virginia, in 1864.

Both the Longmoors and the Slacks were among the first settlers of Kentucky, and have long been among the most substantial and potential citizens of that great commonwealth.



**CAPTAIN N. H. TRACY.**—While there are a few incidents of a sensational or even novel character in the ordinary lives of professional men, there are yet in every successful career points of interest and an undercurrent of character well deserving of careful thought. However much lives

may resemble one another, each must differ from all others, and preserve an identity truly its own. The life-history of N. H. Tracy while it has many phases in common with others of his profession, yet discloses an energy, a perseverance, an integrity and personal characteristics, which acting together as a motive power have enabled him to attain, and maintain, a standing of respectability and an esteem professionally, which are essentially and distinctively his own.

Captain Tracy is a native of Georgia, born in what was then Murray, now Whitfield county, April 3, 1842. His parents were James T. and Eliza A. Tracy, the former a native of South Carolina, and the latter a native of Georgia. The mother's maiden name was Fulcher, and she was a daughter of a respectable and well-to-do planter of north Georgia. The parents moved to Texas in 1856, stopping in Titus county, where, however, they remained only a short time, leaving on account of the severe drouth of that year and going to southwest Missouri where they spent the winter, and in the following spring moved into northwest Arkansas, settling on the horse shoe bend of the north fork of White river. There the father engaged in mercantile and agricultural pursuits, which he followed till his death in 1861. He died in middle life, being in his forty-fourth year, having been born in 1817. The mother survived him till 1878, dying in the fifty-sixth year of her age. For many years she was a consistent member of the Baptist Church. The father, while not rich, accumulated some property, and was in a fair way to become the possessor of considerable wealth at the time of his death. Such advantages in the way of education as his means would allow and his situation with respect to schools afforded he gave to his children, sup-



plementing these with good counsel and a personal example in his own life that was always marked for patient labor, cheerfulness, purity and self-denial.

There were five children in the family of which the subject of this notice was a member. Harry was the eldest. He is now a resident of Dallas, this State, a prominent Populist leader, and a man who has attained much distinction lately as a lecturer on the principles of the Farmers' Alliance. Nat. H. of this article was the second. Joseph and William were two that died, respectively in youth and early manhood, the former at the age of sixteen and the latter at the age of twenty-six. Ollie, the only daughter, is now the wife of William Grissan, and lives in Fulton county, Arkansas.

Nat. H. Tracy, with whom this article has mainly to do, was reared till he was sixteen years old in Murray county, Georgia. He received a fair common school education, and while yet a lad, was placed in his father's store, where he spent the greater part of his early years. In 1859 he married Miss Melvina Herron, a native of Fulton county, Arkansas, and daughter of Fielding Herron; and with the wifely counsel and assistance of this lady had begun to accumulate some property, and lay his plans for what promised to be a successful business career when the Civil war came on. He entered the Confederate army in April, 1861, going out in the first company raised in the locality where he lived, this being Captain Pogne's company, Fourteenth Arkansas Infantry, commanded by Colonel Mitchell. His initial engagement was the first battle at Elkhorn. Following this, he was with that portion of the Missouri and Arkansas troops transferred to the army east of the Mississippi and took part in the engagements at Farmington, Iuka and

Corinth, and in the subsequent operations in that vicinity until the surrender of Port Hudson in July 1863. He was transferred to Arkansas, and again in that State he obtained authority to raise a company for the purpose of driving out the "Jay-hawkers" from Kansas and Missouri, of which company he was elected Captain and at its head entered Frisco's regiment. With it he took part in the battles at Hartsville, Alder Creek, Missouri, and at Augusta, Jackson Port and Miller's Church, Arkansas, besides numerous skirmishes and smaller expeditions where the service was hard, but the casualties light.

When the war was over Captain Tracy returned home to find, as he had anticipated, that all his property had been swept away. He had but two horses left, twenty-five cents in money, the meat of less than two hogs, and corn to feed his horses and make bread for about three months. Four negroes, whom he had raised, remained on his place, and these promised to stay with him. With this stock in trade he began the arduous labors of "reconstruction" on his own plantation. At a council of war held by himself and wife it was decided, as he relates, to meet the enemy with the arms and stores then at hand without asking or accepting aid, either as a gratuity or as a loan, and with this excellent resolution, the good wife went to work picking out cotton to make thread while the husband took to the field with the negroes to prepare the soil for the crop. Captain Tracy says now rather jocularly, but with an evident feeling of earnestness, that those were trying times. The first week passed off monotonously, even gloomily enough, but sunshine was brought into the household on the first Sunday morning by his bringing in two large deer, which he had shot in the woods near by. The rejoicing over this event, however, was



brought to a sudden close when the fact was mentioned that there was no salt in the house, and none procurable, to save the meat with. Another counsel of war was held which resulted in directing attention to the dirt floor of the old smoke-house, which it was believed contained more or less saline matter mixed with mother earth. The dirt was dug up for several inches, leached, the lye boiled, with the result, when the various processes were gone through with, of producing a half bushel of good salt, the color of light brown sugar. This saved the deer meat, and besides that furnished "seasoning" for the remainder of the year. The cotton crop was put in and made a good yield. By ginning time Captain Tracy had sold enough peltry to buy bagging and ties, and when the crop was picked it was put on the market without delay. It brought eighteen and three quarter cents per pound, and netted enough to buy supplies for the ensuing year and give a surplus of \$875. The Tracy household was by this time fairly on its feet. Supplied with a goodly quantity of calico bought at a cost of twenty cents a yard, linsey at forty cents a yard, sugar at eighteen cents a pound and other things in proportion, the labors of a new year were begun much more hopefully than had been those of the previous year. And these things were appreciated too, for Captain Tracy relates that there was a spoonful of sugar or molasses nor a cup of tea, coffee or milk in his house from the time he came home from the war until he raised and marketed his first crop.

In 1868 Captain Tracy moved to Texas, settling at Davilla, Milam county. There he engaged in the mercantile business, and in 1874 moved to Rockdale, continuing in this and the banking business until 1880. Having read law, he was admitted to the bar in

the last named year, and at once entered on the practice, since which time he has given his attention to duties pertaining to his profession. He has served as County Commissioner of Milam county for six years, as member of the Town Council of Rockdale, on the City School Board, and has taken great interest generally in public matters in the community where he lives. He is a Democrat, and has always stood ready to honor sight drafts on his time and services in behalf of his party.

In 1875, the year following his removal to Rockdale, Captain Tracy lost his estimable wife who died at the age of thirty-one years, a devout Christian and sincere, good woman. Two children survive her, Belle, the wife of J. F. Copeland of Springfield, Missouri, and Nat. H. Jr., of the same place. Three children died young, William P. at the age of eleven, James F. at the age of fifteen and Melvina at the age of five. Captain Tracy married a second time in 1876, when he was united to Miss Sallie Pipes, a daughter of John H. Pipes of Greensburg, Louisiana. To this union five children have been born, Eugene H., Claudie, Kittie, Leonard and Nattie. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church, as was also his deceased wife. He is a teacher of a Bible class in the Sunday schools, and exhibits a commendable interest in all church work. He is a member of the Masonic order belonging to the blue lodge and chapter.

Captain Tracy's life has not been all sunshine, as this record shows, but he acknowledges having succeeded in getting a great deal of genuine pleasure out of it, and through all the trials and vicissitudes of his career he has preserved unimpaired his confidence in the existence of his Creator, in the justice and expediency of the scheme of society as it





now exists, and in the honesty and correct impulses of his fellow-men. Of even temper, frank, open nature, and genial, affable ways, he has a host of friends, to all of whom he is known, and by no other title addressed than that of "Nat."



**D**R. WILLIAM R. KENNARD, for twenty-two years a practicing physician of Milam county, was born in Sumter county, Alabama, September 29, 1834. His parents were James P. and Minerva Kennard, natives of Tennessee, who moved to Alabama about 1832, settling in Sumter county, where they subsequently lived and died, the mother dying in 1843, at the age of thirty, and the father in 1873 at the age of seventy. The father spent most of his life engaged in agricultural pursuits and merchandising, being also for sixteen years Clerk of the District Court of Sumter county.

William R. Kennard was reared in his native county in the select schools in which he received his early mental training. He graduated in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania in 1860, and located for the practice of his profession in Miller county, Missouri. On August 7, 1861, he married Miss Josephine L. Dixon of that county. At the opening of the late war he entered the Confederate army enlisting in a Missouri regiment which became part of Price's army with which he served in the capacity of field and hospital surgeon until the close of hostilities.

After the war he resided for six years partly in Missouri and partly in Alabama, engaged in the practice of his profession. In the fall of 1871 he came to Texas, and located in Milam county, west of the town

of Cameron where he resided until 1878, at which time he took up his residence in Rockdale which has since been his home. He has been chiefly interested in the practice of his profession and incidentally in the drug business. He has met with reasonably good success in both. He has served as Mayor of Rockdale, has been a member of the local School Board, assisted in organizing the Milam County Medical Society of which he was the first president, has been medical examiner of Rockdale Lodge, Knights of Honor, since 1878, and was for several years a member of the Board of Medical Examiners of Milam county, when the law creating that board first went into operation. He belongs to the Odd-Fellows, and for thirty years has been a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. Kennard's wife was born in Miller county, Missouri, in 1840, and was there reared, receiving her education in the schools of that county, and at Palmyra and Columbia, that State, graduating from the Christian College of the latter place. She taught one of the first public schools of Milam county. Her parents were William P. and Minerva Dixon who were born, the father in North Carolina in 1812, and the mother in Tennessee in 1824. The mother died in 1868 at the home of her brother, L. B. Wilkes, at Lexington, Kentucky, whither she had gone for medical treatment, and the father in 1893, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Kennard, with whom he had made his home for a number of years. Mrs. Kennard has two brothers, Thomas E. Dixon, living in Vernon county, Missouri, and William Price Dixon, of Kansas City, Missouri, and two sisters, Mary Luella, the wife of George Golden, residing in San Antonio, Texas, and Nannie, the wife of A. Spake, of Johnson





*Emory Taylor.*





county, Missouri. Dr. Kennard has two half-brothers living; John and Nat Kennard of Sumter county, Alabama; and one sister, Sarah, the widow of M. C. Kennard, now making her home with her son, Prof. A. W. Kennard, at Longview, Texas.

The doctor and his wife are both members of the Christian Church to which they have belonged for thirty years. They have had no children, but have brought up several nieces and nephews, two of whom, James P. Kennard, a nephew of the Doctor, and Miss Minnie J. Barnett, a niece of Mrs. Kennard, were taken in infancy. The former is now a successful teacher of Milam county and the latter a recent graduate of the Rockdale high school.



CAPTAIN EMZY TAYLOR, president of the First National Bank of Georgetown, and one of the city's most prosperous and highly respected citizens, was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, October 7, 1841, a son of Josiah and Catherine (Lee) Taylor. Emzy Taylor, the second child in order of birth, has resided in Georgetown since 1849. His education was received principally in Georgetown, where he clerked in his father's store for a time. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the late war, in Colonel, later General, J. B. Hood's Regiment. He went from Texas to Virginia, and on account of failing health was discharged December 4, 1861, but lay in the hospital at Dumfries until in March, 1862. When he entered the service he weighed 166 pounds, but at Dumfries, Virginia, he was weighed and found he had lost eighty-four pounds. His disease was pronounced by the physicians to be consumption, and his papers were signed by

General J. B. Hood, with whom he was intimately acquainted. The latter gentleman had that happy faculty of knowing all his men. He associated the name and the face, and his memory of persons and countenances was such that he rarely ever lost sight of either. After leaving for home, in 1862, Mr. Taylor never saw General Hood until several years after the close of the war, when, as he was passing the hotel in Georgetown one day, the latter, who was a guest there, recognized and called him by name, while he was more than twenty feet away. In May, 1862, Mr. Taylor enlisted in the Sixteenth Texas Volunteer Infantry, known as Flourney's Regiment, was elected Second Senior Lieutenant of his company, later promoted to First Lieutenant, and subsequently, after the death of Captain Chalmers, at Mansfield, Louisiana, was made Captain of his company, serving in that capacity until the close of the war. He was in the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, taken prisoner and confined ten days at Grand Ecore, and also took part in the battle of Milliken's Bend and many skirmishes.

After the close of the war Mr. Taylor began merchandising in Georgetown, and later became a partner of J. L. Brittain. That partnership continued two years, and our subject then continued business alone until the latter part of 1881, when he sold his store to Rucker & Montgomery. In 1882 Mr. Taylor embarked in the banking business in Georgetown, conducting a private bank until June 2, 1890, when it was organized as a national bank, with a capital stock of \$50,000. The officers are: E. Taylor, president; Andrew J. Nelson, vice-president; Lee M. Taylor, cashier; and F. W. Carothers, assistant cashier. In 1876 Mr. Taylor started the project of a railroad from Georgetown to Round Rock, which was built, operated one





year, and then, in 1877, turned over to the International & Great Northern Railroad. They now have on hand a railroad from Georgetown to Granger, have the right of way, depot and grounds, and fifteen miles of grading completed. Mr. Taylor was also instrumental in starting the water works of Georgetown, which were sold to the city in a later day; was secretary of a company who organized to have the Southwestern University located in this city. The valuation of \$150,000 was donated to the Southwestern University, and from \$75,000 to \$100,000 of this amount came from Georgetown. In company with others, our subject organized the Texas Chautauqua, located within one-half a mile of the city, giving \$10,000 and 200 acres of land to have it placed in its present location. They have the finest lecturers in the United States during the college vacation. The grounds are beautiful, and easy of access from the city.

July 7, 1864, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage with Miss Margaret C. Henderson. Her parents died when she was a mere child, and she was reared in Tennessee by her maternal grandmother, Mrs. Martha Mayes, a widow. They came to Texas in 1856. Our subject and wife have two children living: Lee M., cashier of the First National Bank; and Corinna, wife of R. T. Cooper, collector in the same bank. They have three children: Madge, Bessie Bell and Corinna. Lee M. Taylor married Fannie Talliferro, whose grandfather, Rev. Talliferro, preached the first sermon in Williamson county, at the residence of Freeman Smalley, on Brushy creek. Mr. and Mrs. Lee Taylor have one child, Mabel. Our subject and wife are members of the Baptist Church, in which the former holds the office of Treasurer. Politically, Mr. Taylor is a Democrat, and takes an

interest in all home enterprises. He is a man of refinement and an estimable citizen, possesses superior business qualifications, and his integrity of character, honorable and upright dealings and kind consideration of his fellow man, have won for him the highest regard of the community and the county in which he lives.



**F**RANK M. LITTON, a prominent farmer of Bastrop county, was born in this county, September 6, 1839, a son of Addison and Mary (Owen) Litton, natives of Missouri and Alabama, respectively. The parents were married where Bastrop now stands, in 1833, under the Mexican Government. The father was one of the pioneer settlers of old Bastrop, was a member of Captain Bellig's company of rangers, and participated in many engagements against the Mexicans and Indians. During the stampede from this place, Mr. Litton took his family to the Nacogdoches river, and immediately returned to the army. He served as guard over a wagon train during battle of San Jacinto, and after peace was declared he returned to his home in this county, only to find the Indians had burned his house and all the improvements, had driven off his stock, and left nothing with which to begin work but the land, very little of which was then under cultivation. Mr. Litton continued to be a member of the ranger service until 1845, and took part in the battles of Brushy creek, Plum creek, and many others. During the time when he was away from home his faithful wife took care of the home interest, suffering all the horrors and dread of an attack by the Indians during the absence of the men. Mr. Litton was killed in a personal encounter with Indians in 1845,



leaving a widow and four children: David, born in this county in 1834 or 1835, is a resident of Colorado; Mahala, married Frank Yost, and both are now deceased; Frank F., our subject; and Mary A., widow of Charles Woolfingbarger, and a resident of Bastrop county. In 1850 the mother married Christopher Strauther, and they had one child William Strauther. The wife and mother died in 1859.

Few people were obliged to undergo more hardships incident to the early settlement than did Mr. and Mrs. Litton. The former was nearly always away from home, engaged in fighting the Indians from his own and his neighbors' homes, and few men ever gave more of their time to their country than Mr. Litton. He was a fearless man in point of personal danger, always ready to assist in repelling the invasions of the country by Indians and Mexicans. During the early days the families were frequently compelled to go to the forts of Bastrop, Wilbarger, or higher up the Colorado river. On such occasions the men would scour the country for the enemy, leaving their wives, daughters and mothers at the forts, protected only by a few men. While working on his farm Mr. Litton was obliged to have a guard stationed at the house to prevent the Indians from assassinating him, or capturing and carrying the family into captivity, which was more dreaded by the women than death.

Frank M. Litton received only a limited education, and remained with his mother on the old homestead until her death. He still resides on this farm, where he was born and raised. On account of being crippled in his right hand, he did not take an active part in the late war, although his sympathy and means were freely given to the cause of the South. At the opening of the struggle he

was extensively engaged in the cattle business, but at its close his stock was nearly all gone, and, like many others, he was obliged to begin life anew. Mr. Litton purchased the interests of his brothers and sisters in the homestead, and he now owns 800 acres of land on Cedar creek, with 175 acres under a fine state of cultivation. He also has a grist mill and a steam cotton gin, where he gins about 600 bales of cotton annually, about fifty per cent. of the same being raised on his own place.

Mr. Litton was married in 1860, to Miss Sarah Glass, a native of Tennessee, and a daughter of Hector Glass, who came to Texas about 1850. To this union were born three children: Adison, of this county; Hector, of Colorado; and William, a resident of Bastrop county. The sons are engaged in farming and stock raising. The wife and mother died in 1873, and in the following year Mr. Litton married Miss Bettie Thompson, a native of Virginia. Her parents died in that State, and she came to Texas with two other ladies in 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Litton have eight children, as follows: Sallie, Rosa, Lemina, Frank, Kenneth, John Hearn, Bettie, and a babe, David. Mrs. Litton is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



JUDGE Z. T. FULMORE, of Austin, Texas, was born in Robeson county, North Carolina, November 11, 1846. His parents were Zach. and Sallie (Bethea) Fulmore, the latter a native of Marion county, South Carolina, and the former of Robeson county, North Carolina, where he was born January 10, 1808. His ancestors on both sides immigrated to that section about the year 1750, and were prominent partici-



pants in the revolution of 1776, and were all staunch Whigs. The father of this sketch is still living in North Carolina, in the enjoyment of all his faculties, at the advanced age of eighty-five. He has been actively engaged in farming for about fifty years, and is still personally supervising his farm. At the early age of twelve he became afflicted with deafness, from which he never recovered. The mother died July 8, 1854, at the age of thirty-two.

Our subject is the eldest of a family of three children, and is the only survivor—his brother, John B., having died in June, 1882, at the age of thirty-three, and his sister, Ella Florence, in 1872, at the age of twenty-one. Judge Fulmore has had excellent advantages in the way of education, having at the age of seven been placed under the training of teachers of character and education in the immediate vicinity of his home. Early in 1861, he was sent to the North Carolina Military Institute, at Charlotte, then under the supervision of the late General D. H. Hill. When Fort Sumter was attacked, this school suspended, and all its professors—among whom was General James H. Lane and Colonel Charles C. Lee—went to the front. The subject of this sketch, who was only fourteen years old, then went to the Olin high school, in Iredell county, North Carolina. In March, 1862, the demand for volunteers for the Confederate army induced all the teachers of this school to go to the front, and he was again forced to go in search of another school. He then went to the justly celebrated Bingham school, in Orange county, North Carolina. He remained at this school until March, 1864, when he left it to join the army. He enlisted as a private in Company D, first battalion of North Carolina Artillery. He was engaged in but two battles: the first, Fort

Fisher bombardment, December 23, 24 and 25, 1864—the heaviest bombardment in the world's history—and later, on January 15, 1865, in the second Fort Fisher bombardment. He was here taken prisoner of war and carried to Point Lookout, where he remained until May 16, 1865, when he was released and returned home.

As early as possible, within a few months, he returned to Bingham's school to finish his course there, and in 1867 went to the University of Virginia. Here he took a literary course for two years and a law course of one year.

In the fall of 1870 he came to Texas, locating at Austin, December 24th, and has lived continuously here ever since. He has held various positions of honor and trust both of a private and public nature. The first position to which he was ever appointed he still holds, viz.: Trustee for the Institution for the Blind, at Austin, he having been appointed by Governor Coke, in 1875. He is now chairman of the Board of Trustees for that institution. At the age of thirty-three he was elected County Judge of Travis county, and was successively elected to the position for three terms, when he refused to accept a nomination for another term, preferring to return to the practice of law.

In 1887, the Legislature having provided for the establishment of an institution of learning for the deaf, dumb and blind colored youth of the State, Governor Ross appointed him one of the three commissioners to select a site for the institution and organize it. In 1891 he was selected by Governor Hogg as one of three commissioners to codify the laws of Texas, which duty he has performed in connection with his co-commissioners, Hon. H. G. Robertson and Governor Wells Thompson. In politics he is an uncompromising





Democrat, and has invariably taken an interest in all public questions, though never figuring conspicuously in conventions.

He has paid, perhaps, more attention to the formulation of laws by which an efficient system of public schools might be attained in the State than to any other public question which affects the politics of Texas, and has actively participated in almost every discussion which has affected this interest, and for many years has been connected with the practical operations of the educational system of the State. He is a prominent member of the Masonic order, having been twice High Priest of the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Austin. In religious belief he is a Presbyterian, being a member of the Southern Presbyterian Church at Austin.

April 4, 1877, he was married to Lucila Robertson, of Salado, Bell county, Texas, a daughter of the late General E. S. Robertson. He has five children: Ella Florence, Sterling Robertson, Z. T., Jr., Frank and Imogene Fulmore, all of whom are still living.



**A** G. MAY.—As some mighty monarch of the forest, whose head has bowed to the blasts of numerous winter storms, and basked in the refulgent rays of many summer suns whose refreshing shade has afforded welcome relief to man, bird, beast and herb alike, and still lives on, fulfilling its beneficent mission, thus stands the subject of this sketch, a patriarch, blessing all within the influence of his power and the recipient of universal admiration and esteem. This old pioneer, whose life has been passed on the frontier, and who has been instrumental in developing the resources of this country, making possible the thousand bene-

fits of civilization which the present inhabitants enjoy, was born in Tennessee, January 20, 1803, and has thus witnessed the varying and shifting scenes in the history of his native land for nearly a century, his mind being enriched by these experiences, and his soul ennobled by participation in the uplifting and building one of the grandest States in the Union, and, incidentally, one of the greatest nations in the world.

He may justly be termed a pioneer of pioneers, for, having been born on the frontier, his life has been passed in blazing the path of civilization for others to follow. When but four years of age his parents removed from the grand old State of Tennessee, the birthplace of so many noble men and women, to the Territory of Illinois, at that time bearing but slight resemblance to its present populous and prosperous condition, where have recently been gathered the nations of the earth to witness and celebrate the progress of the ages. This little family which played a humble part in paving the way for that State's present grandeur and power, by planting the seeds of civilization, made their toilsome way over bleak prairies and swollen streams to Gallatin county, settling in the midst of a lonely and dreary waste, far from home and friends. Thus passed the first twelve years of the life of our subject, who, in the refining influence of a cultured, though humble home, and in communing with nature, laid the foundation of that noble spirit which has been the strength and delight of all who have come within its presence.

In 1815, this pioneer family, providentially sent to be the pathfinders of a country great in future possibilities, removed from their first settlement in Gallatin county, Illinois, to White county, the same territory. Here this young life moved on as before, learning



the gospel of work, without which no soul is great or good. He was reared to farming, man's most natural vocation, where mother earth welcomes her children, and whence, primarily, comes all nourishment.

Arrived at man's estate, Mr. May was married, August 12, 1825, to Margaret Caldwell, an estimable lady of his neighborhood, who proved, through the trials of after life, a faithful and helpful companion, realizing the poet's dream of

"A perfect woman, nobly planned,  
To warn, to comfort, and command."

The young couple settled near Mr. May's father in White county, whence they soon afterward removed to the vicinity of the lead mines, near Galena, Illinois, where they lived for a number of years. Induced by the favorable reports of the Southwest, toward which a general exodus was setting in, young May started with his wife and family, November 13, 1840, for Texas, arriving at what is now Gonzales county, that State, March 20, 1841. They settled on land in that vicinity and engaged in farming, where they resided, unmolested, until 1842, when the Indians made one of their raids into the settlements, and Mr. May, with his neighbors, was obliged to retreat from the impending danger, fleeing to a more thickly populated district, stopping at what is now La Grange, in Fayette county, where they prepared defenses and held their fort until peace was temporarily restored.

In 1846, Mr. May ventured west again, settling in what is now Caldwell county, where he acquired considerable land and opened up a large plantation and built an elegant home, surrounding himself with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, intending to pass the remainder of his earthly career in the peaceful enjoyment of home and the

society of his children, all of whom were grown, married and comfortably settled near him. Alas, that such Arcadian happiness should be interrupted by strife between brothers of the same country! But thus it was, emphasizing, most strikingly, the mutability of human affairs, and affording a gigantic object lesson of the horrors attendant on the settlement of differences by war instead of arbitration. Perhaps this was the lesson which was providentially intended to be taught, ushering out the dark days of barbarism and bringing in the brighter days of a better civilization.

The war coming on, Mr. May naturally cast his lot with his neighbors, and the upholding of the time-honored institutions of the South, enlisting in the service of the Confederacy, and contributing liberally of his means to the maintenance of that cause. He had three sons and five sons-in-law, all of whom volunteered their services at the first call of their country. Of these, one son, Milton, was killed in the battle of Milliken's Bend; Joseph was seriously wounded at the fight at Pleasant Hill, Missouri, and was sent home, an invalid for several years; Morris, alone, of all the sons, returned unhurt in battle, but with health much impaired, while the five sons-in-law filled soldiers' graves. Thus, at the close of the war, to which Mr. May contributed so largely of his means as to leave himself almost impoverished, and has given that which was dearer than wealth, the precious members of his family, he found himself broken in health and spirit, and with the care of six widows, and their fatherless children, all looking to him for support.

Now was exhibited that unfailing courage and determination, such marked elements of his character through life, and which were the direct results of his early experiences



and consequent self-reliance. He at once set about to repair his broken fortunes and prepare for the support of his numerous dependents. The war having wrought so many changes and troubles, of which their old homes constantly reminded them, they decided to forsake the old scenes and seek new fields in the West. Accordingly, in 1868, he again decided to cast his lot in the unsettled and frontier section of the Lone Star State, and, consequently, sold his old home and removed to Williamson county, where he remained fourteen years. In 1882, he again moved, this time settling in Llano county, which has since been his home, and where he is being tenderly cared for in his declining days by his son, Joseph. Thus, the greater part of this noble old man's ninety years of life has been spent in building up and developing new country, making possible the benefits and pleasures of civilization, which his posterity, and those who have more recently moved into the State, now enjoy.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. May were the parents of fourteen children: Morris, now resident of Burnet county, Texas; Milton, previously mentioned, who was killed in the war; Albert G., who, after spending the best of his life as a circuit rider in the work of the Methodist Church, on the Texas frontier, now resides in Pittsburg, that State; Leonard is a prosperous merchant in the State of Iowa; Joseph, with whom the subject of this sketch now lives, resides on a farm in Llano county; Sarah; Julia; Elizabeth and Margaret are deceased, and also three others, who died earlier in life; Caroline lives in Williamson county, and Emeline resides in Bell county. The devoted wife and mother of this family was heart-broken by the troubles of the war, and, after lingering a few years, she passed away, to enjoy, in a better

world, that reward to which her noble services in this life had so richly entitled her. The descendants of this family now number more than sixty grandchildren, and 120 great-grandchildren, all of whom are active members of society, and among the best citizens of their various communities.

While Mr. May is a hero, and a veteran soldier of the war, he has not neglected the better part of his life. He professed religion and joined the Methodist Church when quite a young man, and has spent nearly seventy years as a consistent and model Christian. He says the greatest satisfaction and comfort of his declining years, as it has always been, is his religion, which fact is typified in his upright, noble career, on which his friends may justly reflect with gratification, and his country muse with pride and reverence.



**E**DWARD BLAKEY BURLESON, one of the first white male children born in Bastrop county, in 1838, is a son of Jonathan and Nancy B. (Blakey) Burleson, natives of South Carolina and Kentucky. The paternal grandfather of our subject, James B. Burleson, was twice married, and was a father of the following: Sarah, who married Robert Thrasher; Joseph; General Edward, deceased in 1852, while a member of the State Senate; Volley, who married Ezekiel Owens; Nancy, who became the wife of Joseph Rodgers; Rachel, married James Rodgers; Mary, who married Martin Taylor; James; Jake, who was killed in the battle of Brushy Creek; John; Jonathan; Aaron; and Elizabeth, familiarly known as Bettie, married Charles Brooks, and resides at George-





town. All are now deceased excepting the last mentioned, who was a daughter by the last marriage.

Jonathan Burleson, father of our subject, came to Texas in 1830, in company with his brother, General Edward Burleson. They located where the town of Bastrop now stands, and at that time only three or four families lived between a settlement fifteen miles up the river to the first settlement ten miles down the river. General Edward Burleson afterwards located at the latter place, at the mouth of Alum creek. In 1845 the Indians and Mexicans produced a panic in this section of the State, and General Edward Burleson was then commanding a regiment of Texas troops at Gonzales. After the fall of the Alamo he ordered Jonathan Burleson to come to this place and conduct the women and children to a place of safety. Mr. Burleson made the trip on foot, a distance of thirty-five miles, and was obliged to pass over the section almost covered with bands of Indians. He conveyed the families to the Trinity river, and after the battle of San Jacinto brought them to Fort Bastrop, landing here in the spring of 1836. After peace with the Mexicans and the independence of Texas were accomplished Jonathan Burleson was appointed by his brother General Edward, as Captain of a company of spies or scouts for the purpose of watching the Indians and Mexicans. During that time he was accompanied by a Tonchawa Indian, who was a son of Plasado a noted Tonkawa Indian chief. The latter then made his home where our subject now resides, and was friendly with the Texans. This young Indian accompanied Mr. Burleson on many perilous undertakings. In 1837, the latter, in company with four men, was engaged in scouting three miles north of Fort Bastrop, when they were sur-

rounded by a band of Comanche braves. He ordered his men to dismount and fire, but instead of doing so they beat a hasty retreat, and Captain Burleson, who had dismounted, found himself deserted by his men. He fired at the advancing savages, mounted his mare, Slick, and rode straight for the bank of Piney creek, where he accomplished one of the most famous leaps ever made with a horse. The bluff was about twenty feet perpendicular, over which the Captain jumped his mare, and made good his retreat to the fort.

Mr. Burleson took part in the battle of Brushy, fought in what is now Williamson county, the whites being commanded by General Edward Burleson, and the Comanches under command of their warlike chiefs. The Burleson family were represented in this battle by General Edward, John, Jake, Jonathan and Aaron. Captain Jake Burleson was in advance of the Texas army, and came upon the Indians while cooking their noon-day meal. The Captain ordered his men to dismount and fire, and after hitching their horses in a grove, the twelve men turned a deadly volley of rifle balls on the savages. The Indians proving too much for the little company of twelve men, Captain Burleson ordered the boys to mount and fall back. One of his boys, only about fourteen years of age, in his excitement mounted his horse while yet hitched to the tree. The Captain saw the condition of the boy, dismounted from his horse, cut the rope, but as he was again mounting was shot dead. The Indians cut off his right hand and foot, and took out his heart, thinking all the while that he was General Edward Burleson. At the battle of Plum creek, in Caldwell county, General Edward Burleson, who was in command, had been following the Indians for several



days, but his force of men was too small to cope with the savages, and on the day before the battle occurred he sent for Jonathan, to Bastrop, for the chief Plasado and his thirty warriors to assist him. Mr. Burleson reached his destination in the evening, and in the same night Plasado and his band of braves made the march on foot, a distance of thirty miles, the chief trotting along by the side of Mr. Burleson, and his hand resting on the latter's thigh. As the battle opened on the following day by General Burleson, Jonathan, and his Indian braves entered the fight, and were victorious. Jonathan Burleson was afterward a member of a company of minute men until 1845, when he retired from service, and engaged in farming and stock raising. He secured the first grant of land from the Mexican or Spanish Government, and the town of Elgin is now located on a portion of this headright. He afterward secured three-quarters of a league from the Republic of Texas in what is now Caldwell county, although he located on a small place near where the town of Bastrop now stands.

Mr. Burleson was first married under the laws of Mexico, in about 1833, to Miss Nancy B. Blakey, and this was the first or one of the first marriages consummated in Bastrop. Mrs. Burleson was a daughter of Thomas and Nancy Blakey, the latter a native of Kentucky. In about 1830 her father came from Bowling Green, that State, to Brazoria, Brazoria county, Texas, where he followed farming and stock raising. His death occurred in 1832. Mr. and Mrs. Blakey had ten children, viz.: Martha, married Robert Mitchell, and both are now deceased; Sarah, married Robert Anderson, both also deceased; Thurse, deceased, was the wife of Noah Smithwick, of California; Mahala, deceased, was three times married, first to John Ander-

son, second to Jephthia Boyce, and third to William Simmons; Nancy B., mother of our subject; John W., deceased; Edward, who was shot through the head at a battle of Brushy creek by Indians; Everett C., deceased; Evaline, married William H. Garrett, and both are now deceased; and Lemuel J., who was killed at the battle of San Jacinto, when only a boy. Mrs. Blakey died in 1853. After the war of 1836 and the independence of Texas was established, Mr. and Mrs. Burleson were married the second time, as their former marriage was not considered as legal as it should be. They continued to live in this section until their death, Mr. Burleson dying December 3, 1879, at the age of sixty-seven years, and his wife died June 7, 1889, aged seventy-eight years. Both were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Burleson was also identified with the A. F. & A. M., and the R. A. M. They were the parents of eight children: Edward B., our subject; Nancy; Thomas; John A.; A. H. E.; J. R., deceased; Mahala, wife of William Montgomery, of McCulloch county, Texas; and Leman, wife of Oscar Thompson, also of that county.

Edward B. Burleson, the subject of this sketch, received only a limited education, was reared to farm life, and began work for himself at the age of twenty-one years. For two years he farmed on rented land, the first year in Bastrop county, and afterward on the San Marcos river, in Caldwell county. In 1862 he purchased a farm of 500 acres in the latter county, on credit, where he moved his wife and twenty-three negroes. He was to pay \$2,000 for the place, every dollar of which was paid by Mrs. Burleson while he was fighting for his native land in the late war, she also paying all doctor's bills and other



expenses, and had the farm well stocked with cattle, horses, mules, etc. Mr. Burleson joined Company K, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, under Captain John Tabor and Colonel R. T. P. Allen, served in the Trans-Mississippi Department, and was afterward transferred to Company D, Twelfth Texas Cavalry, under Colonel W. H. Parsons. He participated in the battles of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Yellow Bayou, and was in all the engagements against Banks from Mansfield to Alexandria, Louisiana. General Steel called for fifteen volunteers to go in front of General Banks' command, and to harass them as long as was deemed consistent. Mr. Burleson was one of the number, but not placed in command of the volunteers, and was with the scouts continually in front of and some times in General Banks' lines. He had many narrow escapes from the enemy, and on one occasion, while inside of General Banks' lines, and near a canebrake, he was attacked by the United States soldiers, and was obliged to run into the cane. He afterwards made his way to a Mr. Bradley's house, where the general's cavalry was camped, remained there with a comrade until twelve o'clock that night, when a terrible rain storm drove them to a cotten gin of Mr. Bradley, but they there discovered about twenty-five Federal soldiers sleeping, and they then returned to the house for breakfast. Mr. Burleson was chased to the cane brake a second time. He was slightly wounded, but was never captured. After the close of the struggle he was engaged in farming two years, and in 1867 embarked in the mercantile business at Lockhart. The venture proved unsuccessful; he in 1869, purchased the farm where he now resides, consisting of 320 acres of Colorado river bottom land, located two miles west of Bastrop, a portion of his grand-

mother Blakey's headright. Mr. Burleson has added to his original purchase until he now owns 1,200 acres, of this landright, 500 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation, where he makes a specialty of raising Hereford cattle. His wife also owns 640 acres of land in Tom Green county.

February 14, 1860, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mattie A. Dorn, a native of Mississippi, and a daughter of Robert and Mary (Carson) Dorn. The Carson family are related to Kit Carson, of western fame. Mr. and Mrs. Dorn came to Texas in 1849 or 1850, and engaged in farming and stock-raising in Caldwell county. He died in 1869, and his wife in 1879, both having been members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. They had seven children, four of whom grew to years of maturity, viz.: Sarah, who married Nathan Reed, and both are now deceased; Eliza R., widow of W. T. Reed; Martha A., widow of James H. Duke; William, deceased; and Mattie A., wife of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Burleson have had eight children, namely: William E., of Edwards county, Texas; John A., also of that county; and Robert D., Lemuel R., Bruce, Mattie M., Ula and Nannie, at home. Mr. Burleson is independent in political matters, and socially, is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Gamble Lodge, No. 244, of Bastrop Chapter, No. 195, and of the K. of H.



**M**ARK JONES, a pioneer and merchant of Williamson county, was born in the province of Breslau, Germany, in 1837, and received his education in the common schools of that country. December 6, 1854, he came to America, landing in New York, and, having served an appren-





ticeship in a dry-goods house, and also received a diploma from a business college, he was engaged there one year as clerk in a jewelry store. In 1855 he located in Keokuk, Iowa; in the spring of 1856 located for a short time in La Grange, Missouri, and in the same year came overland to Texas, in company with George Neely, of Pike county, Illinois. They arrived in Grimes county in February 1857. After coming to this State, Mr. Jones changed his name from Jonas to Jones, his people being still known by the former name. He has one brother living in Chicago. While residing in Grimes county, Mr. Jones was engaged in trading in stock, principally in horses. In 1858 he came to Williamson county, locating near where Florence now is, which was at that time called Brookville. He brought with him a number of horses of his own, also a drove belonging to William Howard, of Mississippi, which he took care of for three years. In 1861 he returned with his horses to Grimes county.

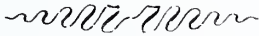
At the opening of the late war, in 1861, although a Union man, Mr. Jones joined the Confederate army, McCowen's Battalion, and went to the city of Waco. While there the companies reorganized into Gurley's Regiment, known as the Thirtieth Texas Cavalry. Mr. Jones was a member of Company D, under Captain Strayhorn, and soon after the reorganization of his regiment he secured a furlough to go home. Previous to leaving camp he had done some writing for the company, which pleased Colonel Gurley and his regimental quartermaster, Captain Abney, and on his return Mr. Jones was appointed Quartermaster's Clerk. He filled that position until the regiment arrived at Houston, where they were ordered to dismount and go to Brownsville, although they did not leave their horses until arriving in Colorado county.

They then marched on foot until Bee county was reached, where they received orders to go into camp at Cypress City. While there Mr. Jones resigned his position as Quartermaster's Clerk for the regiment, and accepted the office of Clerk of the Quartermaster's Department at Houston, where he remained nine months. He was the only man taken from his ranks to fill a position in that department. His work was sent to Richmond, then the seat of the Confederate Government. Mr. Jones afterward joined his company and served as a private until the close of the struggle. He took part in the battles of Rocky and Cabin Creek. At the latter place 300 wagons and 1,200 mules were captured. The company disbanded on the Brazos river, in Falls county, after which Mr. Jones resumed the stock business in Florence. In 1866 he sold his stock to a Mr. McCrary, and embarked in the mercantile business in Georgetown, in company with James Knight, with whom he remained two years. He next located on a farm on the Gabriel, and from 1880 to 1892 was engaged in stock-raising and farming at this place, selling his possessions in the latter year for \$25,000. Mr. Jones owns a beautiful home and considerable other city property in Taylor and Granger, and is now engaged in the banking business in the town of Granger, Williamson county, Texas.

In 1861 he was married to Miss Mariah Pyle, a native of Vermilion county, Indiana, and a daughter of Robert and Martha (Mallone) Pyle. To this union were born seven children: Clara, wife of W. T. Soule; Mattie, now Mrs. Charles Sullivan; Minnie, wife of Dr. Keown, of Waco; Jettie, Mamie, Birdie and Harrie. The wife and mother died in 1885. She was a member of the Baptist Church. In 1887 Mr. Jones married Mrs.



Nannie Emery, *nee* Threadgell. They have one daughter, Adaline. Mrs. Jones is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Jones affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Solomon Lodge, No. 484, and the R. A. M., of this city, and with the I. O. O. F., of Georgetown.



**J** R. JONES.—The subject of this notice has lived on Texas soil sixty-nine years and is therefore probably the oldest Texan in Milan county and among the oldest in the State. He is a native of Vincennes, Indiana, but comes of Southern ancestors, his father, Allen C. Jones, having been born on the Yadkin river in North Carolina, in 1785, where Jesse Jones, father of Allen C. and grandfather of James R., settled towards the latter part of the last century. Jesse Jones was a Revolutionary soldier, a patriot in the times that, as the historian wrote, “tried mens’ souls.” After taking an honorable part in the colonial struggle for independence, he settled on a farm in North Carolina where he passed his remaining days, dying there, well advanced in years. Allen C. Jones was reared in North Carolina where he learned farming and mastered the trades of carpentering, cabinet-making and blacksmithing. He followed these trades in his native State and in the States of South Carolina, Tennessee and Indiana, before his removal to Texas, in 1824. He was a man of great industry and originality and like “Tubal Cain” of old was known as “an artificer” among men. On coming to Texas, in 1824, he resided in Nacogdoches county, then the first stopping place of most of the early settlers. Later he moved to Montgomery county where he engaged in farming and stock-raising,

moving thence in 1845, when he settled in Goliad county, where he died in 1854. He had considerable experience, civil and military, having served under General Jackson in the war of 1812, in the Seminole war and in the war by which Texas won its independence, and having held, in Montgomery county, the offices of Justice of the Peace, County Commissioner and Commissioner of the Land Board. He was three times married and was the father of fourteen children. He first married Margaret Ann Hynes, who resided near Terre Haute, Indiana, by whom he had five children: Delathia, Keetion M., Andrew J., James R. and Charles C. His wife died, in 1824, and he married Jane Cranford, by whom he had six children: Martha, Teretha, Clarissa, Allen C., Rhoda and Sam H. This wife died, about 1829, and for his third companion he married Mrs. Marias Stone, by whom he had three children: David C., George W. and Fannie. Of these fourteen sons and daughters but four are now living, the subject of this sketch being the eldest of this number; James R. was born January 6, 1822. He was an infant when his parents moved to Texas. His childhood and youth were passed mainly in Nacogdoches and Montgomery counties and did not differ materially from that of other boys of his day. He was old enough to know something of the scenes which he saw enacted around him during the days of the Texas revolution (1835-’36) in which he took an incidental part as a member of the Home Guards organized to keep down Indian depredations and to quell incipient revolts on the part of Mexicans domiciled on Texas soil. Having been almost reared in the saddle and familiar from early youth with stock, young Jones naturally turned his attention in this direction when he began the duties of



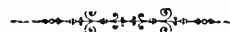
life for himself. For several years he was engaged in the harness business in southwest Texas—principally in Goliad county. After this, about the year 1854, he settled in Leon county, some six miles north of Centerville, where he married and engaged in the settled pursuits of agriculture. In 1856 he moved to Milam county and located on Pond creek, where he purchased land and has since resided. He thus became one of the first settlers of this vicinity and has witnessed the gradual settlement and development of the country in which he has done his full share. Mr. Jones' peaceful ways give no suggestion of the exciting scenes of a military nature through which he has passed. As he sits and quietly discusses the problems of peace and gives his views on matters of practical concern, it is hard to realize that here is a man who has fought the Indians all over the frontier of Texas, who bore arms in the Mexican-Indian uprising of 1838-9, who was in the expedition on the southwestern frontier under Wilson and Somerville in 1842-3 and who served throughout the entire period of the four years' struggle during the late war, taking part in the defense of Galveston, the capture of Sabine Pass and the series of sanguinary engagements following Banks' campaign up Red river. Yet such is a fact and such are the men who wrested this splendid domain from the hands of the savages and maddening bands of Mexicans and have done so much to convert it into an empire where have flourished all the arts and industries of peace.

In November, 1848, Mr. Jones married Miss Mary B. White, daughter of Robert White, mention of whom will be found in the sketch of Colvin C. White elsewhere in this volume. This lady died in 1868 having borne her husband the following children: Charles C., who now resides in Callahan

county; Margaret Ann, the deceased wife of Joseph Hancock; Nancy Ann, the deceased wife of Pat Lester; Juliet, the deceased wife of S. M. Blaine; Richard H., of Milam county; Mary Lodema, the deceased wife of B. L. Bozeman; and a daughter, Alice, and three sons all of whom died young.

Mr. Jones married Ann Moor, April 8, 1869, and this lady died December 3, 1882. He married Mrs. S. J. Giddings, March 23, 1884. He has no children by either of his last marriages.

The religious connection of the family is with the Baptist Church, Mr. Jones having held a membership in the Little River Church for about thirty years.



**D**R. ROBERT McCULLOCH is a native of what was formerly Orange, now Alamance county, North Carolina, where he was born November 13, 1824, on a farm where his father, Moore McCulloch, was also born May 4, 1784. Moore McCulloch was a son of Robert McCulloch, who was a native of Belfast, Ireland, a weaver by trade, who immigrated to America about the middle of the last century in company with two brothers, and settled in Orange county, North Carolina. He served, as did also his brothers, in the Colonies' war for independence, and, coming out of that long and arduous struggle with honor, and uninjured by the conflict in which he had taken part, he settled down to peaceful pursuits in his adopted State, and there passed his subsequent life, dying there well advanced in age. Robert McCulloch married Mary Smith, a daughter of John Smith, and by this union had six children: William, Sallie, John, Joseph, Betsie and Moore. The youngest of





these, Moore, who was the father of the subject of this sketch, was reared in his native county, and there lived and died, his death occurring August 28, 1848, in the sixty-fourth year of his age. He was a planter by occupation, a man of no public record but a volunteer in the war of 1812, in which, however, he saw no active service, peace having been declared before his command, which was raised late, got into the field. Moore McCulloch married Lydia, the daughter of Thomas McCulloch, a native of Belfast, Ireland, whose wife was Mary Cantrol, and who had the following children: Andrew, Thomas, David, Lydia, Pattie and Sallie. Moore and Lydia McCulloch had the following children: Thomas; Margaret, who was married to Daniel Tickle; Mary, who was married to Allen Gant; Robert, the subject of this sketch; Josiah; Lydia J. E.; Ellen, who became the wife of S. C. Fox; Elizabeth, who was married to John P. Albright; and Sarah Jane, who was married to Peter Waggoner.

Robert McCulloch, with whom this article is mainly concerned, was reared on the farm where he was born, in Alamance county, North Carolina, spending his boyhood and youth in the labors, sports and diversions common to farm life in those days and receiving in the intervals of these pursuits and diversions the rudiments of a common English education in the schools of the neighborhood. He began reading medicine at the age of twenty under the preceptorship of Dr. E. F. Watson, a successful physician of Alamance county, with whom he spent the greater part of three years. He then graduated, in 1852, from the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, and located for the practice of his profession in his native county. Two years were spent in that county and one in Lenoir county, when, in 1855, he

came to Texas and took up his residence in Milam county. Resuming the practice at once in his new home, he has followed it actively and with reasonable success since. Dr. McCulloch has resided for the last thirty-eight years in the locality where he first settled, in the eastern part of Milam county, near Maysfield. When he took up his abode in this vicinity the country was very sparsely settled, and the circuit of his calls extended from Little river to Pond creek and from Elm creek to the Brazos river. His professional duties were necessarily pursued under conditions that called into exercise the best qualities that he possessed. For the faithful discharge of his duties he has endeared himself to the people of the locality where he lives, and there are many, especially among the older citizens, who will have no one else when overtaken by sickness. Like most other country physicians, Dr. McCulloch has always had more or less farming interests, and in addition to his professional duties has devoted considerable time to agriculture and other pursuits.

November 6, 1855, Dr. McCulloch married Miss Elizabeth C. Moss, a native of Talladega, Alabama, and a daughter of A. H. Moss, who was born in Virginia, February 22, 1800. A. H. Moss was a son of William Moss, who was also a Virginian by birth. William Moss married Charlotte Cooper, and had the following children: John; Jane, who married Henry Franklyn; Courtney, who was married to John Tardy; Mary, who was married to Dr. Willis Franklyn; Charity, who was married to Smith L. Young; William; and Elizabeth, who was married to Dr. James Hopkins.

A. H. Moss was reared a farmer, emigrated to Alabama at the age of twenty-two, settling in Talladega county; moved



thence, twelve years later, to Oktibbeha county, Mississippi, and thence in 1852 to Texas, settling in Milam county, which was his home until his death, which occurred in 1864. He married Jane B., a daughter of Jeremiah and Phoebe Franklin, and by this union had nine children: Eliza, who was married to Benjamin Rentfrow; Lou, who is unmarried; Frank, who died in Texas in 1879; Mary, who was married to James Colclough; Martha, who died unmarried; Elizabeth (Mrs. McCulloch); William, who was killed in the Confederate army during the late war, at Jenkins's Ferry; Benjamin, who is deceased; and Grayson, who is a resident of this State. Mr. Moss (called by courtesy Major Moss) was a man of prominence in Milam county for a number of years after his removal here. He was extensively engaged in the stock business and accumulated considerable property. Being well informed on the history of the country, a fluent talker and with some taste for political life, he was often called on to address his fellow-citizens, and did so cheerfully and to the delight of his hearers.

Dr. McCulloch and his wife have had born to them two children, both sons: Marcus H., a merchant of Rosebud, Falls county; and Osmus F., a merchant of Maysfield, Milam county. The Doctor belongs to the Episcopal Church, Mrs. McCulloch to the Methodist.



**J**OHN B. TAYLOR, one of the prominent pioneer settlers of Bastrop county, was born in Morgan county, Alabama, November 30, 1823, a son of Levi Taylor, and Tempie (Burleson) Taylor. The mother was a daughter of John Burleson, who died in Alabama. The paternal great-

grandfather of our subject was killed in the Revolutionary war. His son, William S. Taylor, the grand-father of our subject, was a native of Virginia, and also died in Alabama. After the death of his father he was taken by an uncle to Mobile, and settled among the Creek Indians. He was subsequently taken by his brothers to Georgia, afterward went to Tennessee, afterward moved to Alabama. Levi Taylor was raised principally in Tennessee, afterward moved to Alabama, and, in 1853, located in Nacogdoches county, Texas, where he died in 1860. He was a farmer by occupation, and also served as Justice of the Peace many years. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were the parents of ten children, viz.: Sarah R., wife of J. Cole, of Alabama; Mary, who married W. J. Blankenship; Nancy W., now Mrs. Crosland, of Nacogdoches county; John B., our subject; Eliza J., wife of W. Blackburn, also of Nacogdoches county; Artie N., now Mrs. Brewer; Effie E., wife of William Blackburn; William W., deceased, at Houston, while serving in the Confederacy; Charles, of Erath county; and Levi, who died in the army, in Arkansas. Mrs. Taylor died in Erath county, Texas, in 1870. The parents were consistent members of the Primitive Baptist Church.

John B. Taylor, the subject of this sketch, began reading medicine at the age of twenty-one years, with Dr. Hays, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and two years later took a course of study with Dr. Miller. In 1848 he began the practice of his profession at Jasper, Alabama, but two years afterwards located in Chickasaw county, Mississippi. In 1851, Mr. Taylor attended medical lectures at New Orleans; and in 1852 landed at Galveston, Texas; traveled over the State for a time, and finally located at Hopkinsville. He soon after began the practice of medicine in Fay-



ette county, and in 1872 came to Smithville, Bastrop county. After locating in this place he began farming in addition to his medical practice, later engaged in general merchandising, but soon abandoned the practice of medicine except with his particular friends, and still continues in that way. After eight years of merchandizing, Mr. Taylor closed that branch of his business, and turned his attention entirely to farming. He has now retired from all active work. At one time he served as Postmaster of Smithville.

Mr. Taylor was married in 1860, to Miss Susan N. Burleson, a native of this county, and a daughter of Joseph Burleson, who came to this State in 1833, and was among the first to locate in Bastrop county. Indians and game of all kinds were then plentiful, and the father took part in all the Indian raids of this part of the country. To this union was born three children: Yancey D., a farmer of this county; John, of Smithville, and Temple F., wife of A. G. Fancette; a farmer and merchant of this city. Mrs. Taylor died in 1867, and in 1872, our subject married his first wife's sister, Mrs. Nancy A. Yancey, *nee* Burleson. Mr. Taylor affiliates with the Democratic party, and his wife is a member of the Primitive Baptist Church.



**J** W. HENDERSON, one of Milam county's enterprising farmers, has been identified with the interests of Texas for a number of years, and is justly entitled to some personal consideration in this work.

He was born in Moulton, Lawrence county, Alabama, May 25, 1833, son of J. T. and Mary (Barelay) Henderson. The father died about 1835, and the mother, having married again, moved to Texas in 1837, and settled

near Woodville in Tyler county. There the subject of this sketch was reared to farm life, with educational advantages limited. In January, 1854, being then in his twenty-first year, he came to Milam county, where he secured work on a farm of John Cullins, at \$15 per month. He remained thus employed until September of that year, when he joined an expedition under Charles E. Travis, son of one of the heroes of the Alamo, and for twelve months ranged in the western and northwestern part of Texas. Returning then to Milam county, he was engaged in freighting and overseeing until the opening of the late war. He entered the Confederate army in 1861, and was assigned to duty in the commissary and transportation department, where he served until the close of hostilities.

In 1867 he embarked in the live stock business, which was then the principal industry of the State, and gave it his attention until 1877, at first carrying on operations alone, afterward being a member of Cragan Beef Packing Company of New York, and still later, being with the firm of Henderson, Beall & Powers, raising and shipping cattle from 1873 to 1877.

In 1877 he closed out his stock business, and, having made some investments from time to time in Milam county lands, turned his attention to the improvement of these and to the mercantile business, which he entered at Yarrellton. Farming, ginning, merchandising and stock growing have since formed his business pursuits. His entire time has been absorbed with these, and he has met with the usual successes and reverses incident to such interests and enterprises. From 1887 to 1892 he was in the cattle business in Menard county, in partnership with Julius Range of Galveston. One public position is all he ever filled, that he







*C. F. Darlington*



*J. W. Darlington*



ing the office of Cattle Inspector, which he held for about fifteen years. He interests himself in both county and State politics and is a leader in these matters in the locality where he resides, being a staunch Democrat with progressive ideas.

In 1857 Mr. Henderson married Miss Mary Dobbins, of Milam county, daughter of William Dobbins, deceased, and a niece of John Cullins, the man for whom Mr. Henderson first worked when he came to this county. They had twelve children, five of whom are deceased: Walter, R. B., Catherine, Anna and Lillie. The others are J. T., William, Richard, Mary E., Jennie, Engenia and Henry C., most of whom are grown and married. The wife and mother died in June 1880. February 2, 1881, Mr. Henderson married Miss Mary Avera, a native of Mississippi, born March 19, 1855. Her father, H. R. Avera, moved to Texas in 1868, first settled in Robertson county, and from there moved to Bell county, where Mr. and Mrs. Henderson were married. They have seven sons and one daughter, namely: Walter, Carrie, Hardie, Thomas, Earnest, Alexander, Julius and Dwite.

Mr. Henderson was made a Mason in 1861, and has been an active member of the order ever since. He takes a prominent part in everything relating to the welfare of the community where he lives, being always ready to encourage every worthy purpose looking to the upbuilding of the material, moral, social and religious interests of society.



**J**OHN W. DARLINGTON, one of the pioneer settlers and leading farmers of Texas; was born in Virginia, February 5, 1821, a son of John Darlington, a native

of Ireland. He came to America when a young man, was a soldier in the war of 1812, in the battle of New Orleans, and was with Lewis and Clarke in their exploring expedition across the Rocky mountains, which was the first expedition sent by the Government to cross to the Pacific. He was a well educated man and followed teaching as a profession. After returning to Virginia, Mr. Darlington met and married Mrs. Henrietta Nuzum, a daughter of Stansburry, and Sarah (Kinzie) Lang, of Scotch-Irish parentage. The father was also a soldier in the war of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Darlington had two children,—Mary, formerly of Virginia, and John W., our subject. The father died in 1820, a short time before the birth of our subject.

John W. Darlington, the subject of this sketch, came to Texas January 14, 1838, landing in what is now Matagorda, but a short time afterward came to what is now Wharton county. In May, 1838, he located in Bastrop, now Travis county, where he remained sick with the chills one year. In the spring of 1839 Mr. Darlington engaged in freighting with ox teams from Houston to Bastrop, and later went to Austin, where he worked on the first public buildings of the Republic of Texas in that city, the lumber of which the State House and Governor's mansion was made having been sawed by hand, in which Mr. Darlington assisted. The first contractor, Mr. Porter, never paid many of his men, our subject being among the number. In 1840 he worked on a farm in Travis county, in 1841-2 followed that occupation on the shares in the same county, and in 1842 was called out to repel a Mexican invasion, under General Vasquez. They came to take San Antonio, and committed many depredations. The little band of which Mr.





Darlington was a member, under Captain Tom Green, Colonel Caldwell and General Birleson, did not reach San Antonio in time to participate in the struggle, but while in Austin, on his way to San Antonio to meet General Vasquez, his horse was stolen. Having enlisted, he had to purchase another horse, which animal he had to "work out" after his return. August 12, 1840, Mr. Darlington with a company of citizen soldiers, had a severe battle with the Comanche Indians at Plum creek, in what is now Caldwell county. The whites numbered less than 200, and the Indians about 1,000. The latter were armed with arrows, spears and a few guns. The Indians stood only one fire of the whites, which killed many of their number, and only two white men were wounded. This was a running fight of twelve miles, in which many red men were sent to the happy hunting ground, and which broke the war spirit of the Comanche braves. In the noted Webster massacre of 1839, Mr. Darlington barely escaped death.

During a portion of the year 1842, Mr. Darlington was engaged in working for his second horse, but while in Austin it was stolen from him. During that year General Wall came in with a force of Mexican soldiers with canon. The citizen soldiers marched almost in a body to Salado creek, five miles from San Antonio, where they were organized, and placed under the command of Matthew Caldwell. They there met General Wall, where a desperate battle ensued, but the Texans were victorious. They followed General Wall to Hondo creek, and this was the last raid the Mexicans ever made into this State for the purpose of fighting the Texans. Mr. Darlington then returned home, but in the same fall engaged in farming on rented land in Rusk county. Two years

later, in 1844, he purchased his first farm in this State, but in 1845 sold his land and returned to Travis county. He was there engaged in farming and stock raising on rented land until 1849; from that time until 1873 farmed on his own land, and in the latter year purchased 520 acres four miles from where Hutto is now located, for which he paid \$5 per acre. He now owns 520 acres of land, 300 acres which is under a fine state of cultivation, and the rest in pasture. On the place are good buildings, and all farm conveniences. Mr. Darlington has also given land to his children. In 1884 he rented his farm and purchased a home in Taylor, where he still resides.

During the late war Mr. Darlington served as a private in a company of rangers, commanded by Captain Graham. This company was organized under the State Military law, but the troops were only furnished with ammunition. They were stationed on the northern border of Coryell county, but were kept moving most of the time, Major Erath having charge of the entire command scattered along the border of the State.

October 19, 1843, Mr. Darlington was united in marriage with Miss Ellen J. Love, a daughter of Wade and Jane (Wilson) Love. The father was a native of Kentucky, and was reared to farm life. During the war of 1812 he was stationed in Canada, participated in many of the battles fought in that section, and remained on the Lakes and in the Northern army for four years. After returning home he went to South Carolina, and later moved to where Atlanta is now located, where he followed mercantile pursuits. He raised a company for the protection of the settlers, was a great friend of Chief McIntosh, and assisted in the land





trade between the Indians and whites. In 1833, Mr. Love removed to Kentucky, one year later went to Mississippi, in 1839 came overland from Salem, that State, to Travis county, Texas, and three years afterward went to Rusk county, where he was engaged in farming and stock raising. Mr. and Mrs. Love were the parents of eight children, viz.: Martin A., of Llano county, Texas; John W., of Gonzales county, David O., deceased, was a ranger in the State service, and was on the expedition to San Antonio; Mary E., widow of William Griffin, and a resident of Rusk county, Ellen J., wife of our subject; Alexander H. and Wesley L., of Coryell county, and Leonard R., of Fort Davis. Mr. and Mrs. Love died in Coryell county, and were buried at Gatesville. Mr. and Mrs. Darlington have had ten children, namely: Mary J., widow of John Cavanaugh; J. B.; Martha A., wife of Lemuel Baker; Thomas J.; Maggie, wife of A. B. Kennedy; B. F.; W. W.; H. W., deceased; W. L.; and Ella, widow of Lou Twining.

In political matters, Mr. Darlington affiliates with the Democratic party, and socially, is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and of the Veteran Association. Both he and his wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. They have just passed the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding.



**M**RS. MARTHA A. REYNOLDS, is the oldest person in point of residence now living in the city of Bastrop, where she located in 1832, at the age of four years. She was left fatherless during the following year, by the tomahawks of the cruel Comanches; participated in the stampede of 1836, and endured the many hard-

ships and privations incident to the frontier in the early times. She was born in Pike county, Illinois, in 1829, and is a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Buchanan) Christian. The Christian family are of English descent, and located in Virginia in colonial times. The grandfather of our subject, Benjamin Christian, was born and raised in Bedford county, that State, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He married a Miss Greenup, and several years later moved to Wayne county, Kentucky, where he subsequently died.

Thomas Christian, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia, and was ten years of age when the family moved to Kentucky. His wife was a native of Wytke county, Virginia, and was married in Wayne county, Kentucky, while there on a visit. Mr. and Mrs. Christian soon afterward returned to Wytke county, several years later removed to Pike county, Illinois, and in 1832 the family then consisting of six persons came to Texas. In the following spring they landed in the newly located town of Bastrop. A lot was selected on the river bank, now occupied by the residence of widow Hutchison, and they erected the fifth house in the place. In the following season, on account of there being no cleared land there to cultivate, the family moved to the settlement known as Webberville, where land was secured and a crop of corn planted. The following summer the tragic death of the father occurred, a full account of which may be found in Wilbarger's historical work. Mr. Christian had gone with a small company of men to locate claims, and August 22, on Walnut creek, about six miles south of where Austin now stands, they were attacked by a band of thirty Comanche Indians. There were but five white men, two of whom, Strother and Christian, were



immediately killed, while two, Haynie and King escaped. The fifth, a Mr. Wilbarger, brother of the historian, was scalped and left for dead, but was found alive by a relief party the following day and recovered. Mr. Christian was evidently killed at the first attack, was scalped, and his body otherwise mutilated. During his lifetime he had sustained an excellent character, had served his country in the war of 1812, and was an active worker in the Methodist Church.

The remainder of the family returned to the Bastrop settlement the following year, and located a twelve-mile tract north of Piney creek, now owned by George Perkins. The following year, 1835, the widow married Captain James Burleson, a noted Indian fighter, who survived but a few months. Hardly had the family settled in their new home when they were rudely removed by the historic "runaway scrape" of 1836. Taking shelter at Ft. Parker, on the Brazos, they remained until the news of the successful termination of the battle of San Jacinto reached the fort, when they returned to Bastrop. They found the town entirely destroyed. Again they began life on their little farm, but marauding bands of Mexicans and Indians made it so unsafe that a fort was built in the town, where all the families repaired for safety. In 1837, their enemies becoming more insolent and rapacious, it was thought best to move, and again their homes were abandoned, the colony taking refuge in the settlements farther down the river, in old Washington. After a year spent there, another return was made, and, although the Indians were very troublesome and necessitated a constant watch, they succeeded in remaining. Mrs. Christian lived in Bastrop until 1847, when she settled in the northern part of the county, on the league now partly

occupied by the town of Elgin, where she died in 1870. The family consisted of five children, all of whom are now deceased but Mrs. Reynolds and a half sister, Mrs. Charles Brooks, of Georgetown, Texas.

Martha A. Christian was married near Bastrop, January 21, 1847, to Sherman Reynolds, a native of Fishkill, New York. He came to Texas at the age of twenty-three years, landing in Galveston in 1840. He remained there one year, spent the following year near Austin, and in 1843 became the first dry goods merchant in the new town of La Grange. In June, 1844, he came to Bastrop, where he conducted a large and successful business many years. His death occurred January 29, 1879. Mr. Reynolds was a man of progressive mind and good business judgment, and for several terms was the custodian of the county funds, but cared little for public office. As a coincidence in his life it may be mentioned that his birth, marriage and death occurred in the month of January, and the old home in which he raised his children, was also burned in that month. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were the parents of eight children, namely: A. B., of Bastrop; Angeline, who was drowned at the age of two years; Hiram G., of Bastrop; John B., deceased; Hattie, now Mrs. Frank Petty, of Louisiana; Mary, wife of Don G. Petty, also of that State; Libbie, wife of Will Paris, of Haskell, Texas; and Adelia and Matt A., at home.

A. B. Reynolds, the eldest child, was born in Bastrop, June 13, 1848, and was educated at the Emory & Henry College, Virginia. After completing his education in 1870, he continued in business with his father in this city until 1876. In that year he was elected Tax Collector, held the office one year, followed farming until 1884, and since that



time has been engaged in the livery business. He still owns his farm of 300 acres, located near Bastrop, and is also interested in a gin.

Mr. Reynolds was married in this city, April 22, 1874, to Frances M. Green. They have four children,—Allie G., Lulu L., Sidney D. and Arthur J.



PROF. J. W. CLARK.—“Thank God there are no free schools in this province, nor printing press; and I hope we shall have none these hundred years,” wrote Berkeley, the royalist Governor of Virginia in 1671, and his wish, unnatural as it may seem now, was almost literally fulfilled. But this sentiment never found lodgement with the colonists, and was not tolerated by them after they came to see clearly their rights and privileges, the establishing of newspapers and the founding of schools being among the earliest objects of their fostering care. Each of these forces has grown to be a mighty factor in the development of this country, and the story of civilization in the western world is largely the story of the evolution of the printing press and the free school system. From the public schools of the States men and women have gone to fill all ranks, all spheres, in life. The press has been gratefully called the “Palladium of our Liberties;” the public school is no less the nursery of public virtue and public intelligence.

The subject of this sketch, Professor John W. Clark, Principal of the public schools at Rockdale, is one whose labors in behalf of education entitle him to the grateful recognition of all who have at heart the elevation of the minds and morals of the young, and is especially deserving of notice in connection

with the public schools of that place,—confessedly among the best in the State, their superiority being in a large measure due to his untiring efforts.

He is a native of Washington county, Virginia, born September 13, 1851, and is a son of Peter G. and Parmelia A. Clark, natives of the same State. His father is a planter, residing now in Washington county, Virginia, where he has passed most of his life, and where he is extensively and favorably known. He was a soldier in the Confederate army during the late war, serving with credit as Lieutenant of Company F, Twenty-first Virginia Cavalry, in which he fought under those distinguished generals, Jubal A. Early and Fitzhugh Lee, taking part in all the campaigns and engagements in which the army of northern Virginia participated from Manassas to Appomattox. He has been a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church, and faithful to every duty as a citizen and member of the community in which he resides. The mother, who is also yet living, bore the maiden name of Parmelia Ann Cunningham, being a daughter of George and Martha Cunningham, natives of Virginia, and descendants of early settled families of that State, originally of Scotch and Irish extraction. The two children of the marriage of Peter G. and Parmelia A. Clark are Rev. Peter C. Clark, a regularly installed minister of the Presbyterian Church, now filling a charge at Fincaster, Virginia, and Prof. John W. Clark, of this article.

The last named was reared in his native county, and in the schools of that county received his early education. He began teaching at the age of sixteen, and in this way earned the money with which to defray his expenses through college. He attended





Emory and Henry College at Emory, Virginia, and the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, graduating from the latter, July 4, 1875. He resumed teaching as a profession immediately on graduation, securing a school at Lebanon, Virginia, where he taught for one year. He then came to Texas, in October, 1876, and taught in the public schools at Bastrop for twelve months, after which he located in Austin, where he remained for two years, during which time he had charge of the seven graded schools of that city. Having been made Adjunct Professor of mathematics in the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Bryan, he went to that place in 1880, where he taught for one year. He was then offered the superintendency of the schools at Navasota, which he accepted and there labored for four years. In the meantime, January 9, 1882, he married Miss Lucy W. Brown, a daughter of Robert Brown, of Navasota, Mrs. Clark being a native Texan and a lady of excellent attainments, graduating with the first honor in the first class that graduated from the Houston high school, in May, 1879. She has since shared her husband's labors, and rendered him most efficient aid. In 1884 Prof. Clark was called to Rockdale, where he took charge of the public schools, which position he has since held. His life has thus been taken up with teaching, a calling for which he possesses a natural aptitude and for the successful pursuit of which he has qualified himself in an eminent degree. His work in this line has always been of a high order, and has given almost universal satisfaction. His specialty is mathematics, but he is proficient in all branches, and as an organizer possesses ability equalled by but few. He knows a good school as soon as he sees it, and he can take a poor one and in short time

make a good one of it. In the last seventeen years that he has been in Texas he has done a vast amount of labor in behalf of the State schools as well as in behalf of the general cause of education, and he has established himself securely in the estimation and good will of the people where he has taught, and in the opinion of leading educators with whom he has been brought in contact. His class-room work is marked for its breadth and thoroughness, particularly as respects those things of practical need. He believes, as one has said, that the "primary problem with a lad is to teach him to take care of himself and to cling to that which is sincerely lucrative" and with this in view he refrains from loading his scholars with a knowledge of the ways and customs of fairy-land, the unintelligible jargon of numerical formulae, and the vagaries of occult sciences and metaphysical speculation. He teaches them, instead, their duties and relations to society as it is now constituted, and prepares them to handle problems of industrial development, finance, civil government and such matters of practical import which are ever calling for invention, novelty, freedom of mind and readiness to respond to external changes and circumstances. He goes about his work with a solemn sense of its gravity and seeks to impress upon those under him the same feelings of responsibility. His management in general is characterized by the same high sense of duty, his relations with teachers and trustees being marked by the utmost harmony and by mutual helpfulness and mutual esteem.

The Professor has taken some interest in matters outside of his school work, but has never allowed any pursuit or diversion to interfere with the objects of his calling. He has served as City Engineer of Rockdale,



and while a resident of Austin he was identified with some local organizations of a civil and social nature. He is a member of the Knights of Honor, and he and his wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church. They have a family of three living children. Coral, May Cunningham and John Vincent, their third child, Robert Gilbert, being deceased.



**J**OHAN L. MITCHELL, of Clarkson, Milam county, Texas, is the subject of the present sketch. This vicinity is one of the finest and most fertile parts of the State of Texas. Although not more than a decade has passed since it began to be settled, many of its farmers show that thrift and enterprise which might reasonably be expected in a country of twice its age. Our subject is one of the successful men of the locality mentioned, and, strictly speaking, he came to Milam county without means. He came from Robertson county, where in conjunction with his father and brothers he conducted a farm for eight years in the Brazos bottoms. They had come to Robertson from Lavaca county, where they resided only eight months, it being their first point of location in Texas. Tilling the soil has always been the occupation of our subject. He learned to raise cotton and corn early in life, but did not prosper much at it until he reached old Milam county, and here year after year he found his bank account increasing, and in 1879 he felt able to own a farm and in consequence bought 100 acres, and since that time he has reposed under his own vine and fig tree.

Before selling out in 1885, our subject had added seventy acres to his original purchase. The same year he bought 143 acres of his present tract and his success has enabled him

to increase it to 500 acres, all fine, black, fertile land. He is cultivating 200 acres chiefly in cotton, and in 1891 his crop was eighty bales, and in 1892, it was ninety-five bales. Mr. Mitchell utilizes his cotton-seed in the feeding of beef-cattle every year, from fifty to seventy-five head selling on the local market each year, and he is looked upon as one of the rising young men of this county.

Our subject was born in Union county, Arkansas, in 1851, but obtained only a limited school training. The Civil war was responsible for the unhealthy condition of both public and private education, and thousands of boys were launched into manhood with untrained minds as a result. At the age of eighteen Mr. Mitchell came to Texas with his father, making a stop in Lavaca county. John A. Mitchell, the father of our subject, was born in South Carolina in 1814 and had emigrated with his father, Thomas Mitchell, born in Ireland, to the State of Alabama, and there he grew to man's estate. He learned the trade of carpenter, but used it only as a convenience in after life. His father followed blacksmithing in middle life, but later settled down to farming. J. A. Mitchell was not subject to military duty, having lost one of his arms in a saw-mill a few years before, but during the Rebellion served in the commissary department of the Confederate army. Mr. Mitchell moved to Arkansas about 1840. Four years before, he married Martha, the daughter of Joseph Holloway, who married a Miss Newton.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mitchell were: James, deceased; Elizabeth, wife of T. F. Johnson, a merchant of Waco; Eliza, deceased, wife of T. E. Mitchell, leaving one child; Maggie first married Benson Kelley and then J. W. McGowen of Waco; Edward J., a resident of Clarkson; John L.,



our subject; William, deceased; and Mattie, the wife of R. O. Thomas, of Montague county, Texas. The mother died in 1883, and the father seven years later. In 1882 John L. married Alice, the daughter of Perry Wimberly, of Milam county. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are as follows: James Louis, Loyd, Rodney F. and Rex. The family belongs to the Baptist Church, holding a membership in the Clarkson Church.



**J**UDGE JOHN B. RECTOR, United States Judge of the Northern District of Texas, was born in Jackson county, Alabama, November 24, 1837. His parents were L. L. and Agnes (Black) Rector, the former a native of Tennessee, the latter Georgia. The father was a merchant in Bellefonte, Jackson county, Alabama. He came to Texas in 1847, settling in Bastrop county, where he engaged as a planter. His advent in Texas was after this State was admitted into the Union and he ever proved himself a good, true citizen. He lived and died in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, dying in July, 1888, aged nearly ninety years, having been born in 1799. His wife died in 1852, aged forty. She was also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and proved herself a devoted wife and mother through all the privations that they were forced to endure as pioneers of this great State. There were five children in this family that lived to maturity, two having died in early childhood.

John was the second child. He was educated at Yale College, Connecticut, and graduated in the class of 1859, being one of 105 graduates. He returned to Texas and studied law with Judge Royal T. Wheeler, Chief

Justice of the State of Texas, and was admitted to the bar in the latter part of 1860. He opened an office in Austin and practiced there a year, when he enlisted in Company D, Terry's Rangers as a private, in August. He served through the entire war, serving under Albert Sidney Johnston, Bragg and then Joseph E. Johnston. He was in a number of the heavy engagements of that department and was in the cavalry. One time he was taken prisoner, but escaped only to be obliged to surrender in North Carolina, under Joseph E. Johnson when that General surrendered his army.

After the war was over he returned to Bastrop, opened a law office and became a member of the law firm of McGinnis & Rector, which lasted but a short time as he was elected District Attorney and served in that capacity until the latter part of 1867, when he returned to the practice of law, at the same place, continuing there until the latter part of February, 1871, when he was appointed by Governor E. J. Davis, and confirmed by the Texas Senate, Judge of the Thirty-first Judicial District of Texas, comprising the counties of Robertson, Leon, and Freestone, and served in that capacity for more than five years, when, in 1876, he returned to the practice of law in Austin. He remained in that city practicing his profession until he received his present appointment, March 24, 1872. This was a presidential appointment confirmed by the United States Senate. He is the successor of Judge A. P. McCormick, who was appointed United States Circuit Judge. In 1884 Judge Rector ran on the Republican ticket for Congress in the Tenth Congressional District of Texas against Major Sayers, the Democratic nominee, who was successful and succeeded Judge





Hancock in that office. The campaign was interesting and exceptional in the fact that it was perhaps the only canvass for Congress in Texas since the late war in which a Democrat and Republican canvassed together and spoke from the same stump. Judge Rector has been twice elected as a delegate-at-large to Republican National Conventions to nominate President and Vice-President. In 1888 he was Chairman of the Texas delegation at the Chicago convention. From 1886 to 1888 he was Chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee of Texas.



COLONEL G. W. JONES, a lawyer of Bastrop, Texas, is of Welsh extraction. The family located in this country in Colonial days, in King and Queen county, Virginia, where the great-grandfather of our subject, James Jones, died at the opening of the Revolutionary war, leaving one son, also named James. The latter married, and in early years of the present century, with a family of children, moved to Giles county, Tennessee, where he afterward died. In 1820 the children settled in different parts of the country, but in 1872, after having been separated fifty-two years, held a reunion in Tennessee, at which time the group was photographed. One of the pictures still hangs in Colonel Jones' home, and is a much prized relic. The father of our subject, William D. C. Jones, the eldest of the children, was born in 1799. He was married in Marion county, Alabama, in 1822, to Rachel Burleson a member of the family of that name so intimately connected with early Texas history. She was a cousin of General Edward Burleson, in honor of whom Burleson county was named. Her father, Joseph Burleson, came to Texas in

1833, participating in the "runaway scrape," and located in Bastrop county. After spending eight years in Marion county, Alabama, Mr. and Mrs. Jones located in Tipton county, Tennessee. The fame of Texas spread rapidly throughout the East after the return of the armies that carried the Mexican war to a successful close, and long lines of wagons wended their way toward the Lone Star State. Among the emigrants of 1848 was the Jones family, who located in Bastrop county, on the Colorado river, ten miles below the city of that name, where members of the family have ever since lived. The mother died here February 19, 1866, and the father died April 13, 1893, aged ninety-three years and four months. Mr. and Mrs. Jones were the parents of ten children, viz.: Nancy J., who died at Woodville, Texas, in 1881, was the wife of Dr. S. B. Johnson; James, deceased in 1868, was a prominent and respected resident of Bastrop county, where he served as Justice of the Peace and County Commissioner a number of years; Elizabeth, deceased in 1867, was the wife of Louis Hancock; G. W., the subject of this sketch; Maria M., wife of Joseph Rogers, of Hays county, Texas; Charles H., who located in Tyler county, served his State during the late war as Captain of a company in Burnet's Regiment, was a member of the first Legislature after the close of the hostilities, and died in 1880; William H. studied law, was admitted to the bar in Bastrop county, represented his county in two Legislatures, and has followed farming all his life; Benjamin F., who remained until death, in 1887, on the old homestead, represented Bastrop county in the Legislature in 1880, and was a popular and respected gentleman; Patsy, deceased in 1869, was the wife of John S. Wilson; and Joseph B., deceased at the age of four years.



Colonel G. W. Jones, the subject of this sketch, was born in Marion county, Alabama, September 5, 1828. His boyhood days were passed on a farm in Tipton county, Tennessee, and February 16, 1849, he located on the Colorado river, in Bastrop county, where he followed farming two years. He then studied law, without a preceptor, was admitted to the bar, and since the fall of 1851 has been a prominent and successful law practitioner of Bastrop. For a number of years he was in company with the present Congressman for this district, Colonel Sayres, but for the past few years has been associated with H. M. Garwood. In 1853 Mr. Jones was a candidate for legislative honors, but was defeated by a small majority. In 1856 he was elected District Attorney over A. H. Chalmers, and at the end of his first term voluntarily declined a re-election, and returned to private life. The following year he was an unsuccessful candidate for the State Senatorship. During the campaign of 1860 Mr. Jones espoused the cause of Douglas, and fought against secession, but, when a large majority of the voters declared in its favor, he conformed to the situation. In April, 1862, he entered the Confederate service, before the organization of the Seventeenth Texas Infantry, was elected Lieutenant Colonel, and after the battle of Milliken's Bend, was promoted to the Colonelcy, vice Colonel Allen, resigned. After returning from the war Mr. Jones was a member of the Constitutional Convention of that year, and in 1866 was elected Lieutenant Governor on the Throckmorton ticket. After the days of reconstruction our subject became dissatisfied with the Democratic party, and in 1876 became an independent Greenback candidate for Congress in the fifth district, but was defeated by D. C. Geddings, but, two years

later, defeated John Hancock, of Austin. Mr. Jones served in the forty-sixth Congress, was re-elected in 1880, and during these sessions his attention was given to financial matters. In 1882 he was the candidate of the independent Greenback party for Governor, but was defeated by John Ireland, and again defeated in 1884, but since that time he has declined to allow his name to be used for any office. In addition to his extensive law practice, Mr. Jones, also owns 325 acres of land in the suburbs of Bastrop, 200 acres of which is cultivated, and he has lived on this place since 1856. He is also extensively engaged in cattle raising, having a ranch of about 3,000 acres in Runnels county.

August 1, 1855, in Fayette county, Texas, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Ledora Ann, a daughter of Ira and Ann (Doak) Mullin. She came to Texas with her parents from Mississippi at the age of ten years. Mr. Jones is independent in his political views, and socially, is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders.



**M** V. TYSON.—For five or six years following the close of the late war Texas received large accessions to her population from the army of discharged Confederate soldiers from the older Southern States, mostly young and middle-aged men, who, broken in fortune and discouraged by the dismal prospects around them, came West to begin life anew. One of this number was M. V. Tyson, the subject of this sketch, a native of Tennessee, but for some years before his removal to Texas a resident of Arkansas. Mr. Tyson comes of good, strong Southern stock, the families from which he is descended being among the



earliest settlers of Tennessee. His paternal grandfather was Uriah Tyson, a native of North Carolina, who emigrated to Tennessee early in this century. Noah B. Tyson, the father of the subject of this notice, was born in Montgomery county, Tennessee, in 1814. He married Mary Morris, a daughter of Nathan Morris, of Stewart county, that State, about 1832, and for a number of years engaged in farming in his native State. In 1848 he moved to Arkansas, settling in Ouachita county, where he prospered in his chosen pursuits until the opening of the late war. Like hundreds of others, he lost heavily by the ravages of that great conflict, and in 1865 he came to Texas, settling in Milam county, where he died in 1876. His wife was born in 1816 in Stewart county, Tennessee, where she was also reared. She died in Milam county, Texas, in 1876. Noah B. and Mary Tyson were the parents of ten children: Martha, Uriah, William, Martin Van Buren, Sallie, Samuel, Noah, Jephtha, Mary and Charles. Of these but three are now living: Martin Van Buren, the subject of this sketch; Noah and Jephtha, the last two being residents of Mills county, this State.

Martin Van Buren Tyson, the subject proper of this sketch, was born in Henry county, Tennessee, June 27, 1840. He was eight years old when his parents moved to Arkansas, and his boyhood and youth were passed in Ouachita county, that State. He was reared on a farm, where his time was spent in the labors and diversions common to farm life. He received only a limited education. Stepping out to meet the current of life for himself at the age of twenty-one, he found the country making active preparations to go to war, and, his patriotism being stirred by the appeals made to it, he entered the Confederate service early in 1861, enlisting

in Company F, Third Arkansas Infantry, from which he was discharged after twelve months' service on account of rheumatism. In the spring of 1863 he enlisted in the Fifth Missouri Cavalry, commanded by General Price, with which regiment he served both east and west of the Mississippi, and was actively engaged on the skirmish line till the close of the war, his regiment disbanding at Shreveport, Louisiana, in May, 1865.

Mr. Tyson reached home May 25 after the surrender and immediately turned his attention to farming, and was so engaged in Ouachita county, Arkansas, until 1868, when he came to Texas, settling in Milam county. Here he invested what little means he had in fifty acres of land lying on Little river, being part of his present farm, on which he settled and went to work. By industry and economy he accumulated from year to year, and as he grew in wealth he invested in lands adjoining his first purchase. At this writing he owns 1,500 acres in one body lying on Little river, 600 acres of which are under cultivation, and on which reside seventeen families and out of the proceeds of which are supported 103 persons. In 1892 the yield of his place was 225 bales of cotton, besides the usual amount of grain and stock products. Mr. Tyson has converted his primitive patch into a farm of broad acres, well cultivated and well improved. His log cabin has given away to a comfortable home, surrounded by necessary out-buildings for stock, and neat, well-kept grounds, all showing the industry, skill and good management which have wrought so marked a change in his affairs since he took up his residence in this county twenty-five years ago.

In 1862 Mr. Tyson was married to Mary Ann, a daughter of James Johnston, then residing in Ouachita county, Arkansas. Mrs.





Tyson was born in Jasper county, Georgia, where she was also reared. To this union three children were born: Georgia, the wife of A. J. Elzey, of Milam county; James L., who died May 25, 1883, at the age of sixteen; and Fannie, who is the wife of Matthew Biard, of Milam county. The wife and mother died in 1869, and two years later Mr. Tyson married Miss Jane Smith, a daughter of Darling M. Smith, of Milam county, to which union eight children have been born: Clyde, who died in 1890, aged sixteen; Emma; Oscar; Randolph; Conway; Van; Bernice, who died in 1890, at the age of four; and Ennice.

Mr. Tyson was reared a Democrat, bears the name of a distinguished Democratic politician, fought four years for a cause championed by the Democratic party, and, as might be expected, is himself a Democrat of the most pronounced convictions, but has never asked or held office of any kind, political activity on his part being prompted by a desire for the success of the men and measures whose causes he espouses.



**I**SAAC M. POOL.—Milam county as now constituted was organized in 1846. That year and the following, which witnessed the triumph of the American arms in Mexico and settled forever the title to Texas soil, marked the beginning of the era of immigration and development of this section of the new Southwest. From 1846 to 1861, the opening of the late war, many settlers mainly from the older States of the South came to this new State and found homes for themselves and families in the fertile valleys along its rivers and on its prairie lands. Among those who took up their residence in Milam county in the earlier years of this period

was Isaac Pool, the father of the subject of this sketch, who moved out from Mississippi in the fall of 1851, and settled on Jones' prairie about ten miles from Cameron, the county seat. Isaac Pool was a native of South Carolina, where he was born in the year 1812. His parents were also South Carolinians by birth, had been early settlers in Alabama, moving to Perry county, that State, about 1820. The youth and early manhood of the son were passed on the border, concerning the ways of which he knew from actual experience. He married in Perry county, Alabama, about 1830, and two years later moved to Noxubee county, Mississippi, then a sparsely settled section of the State; thence to Pontotoc county, that State, where he resided till his removal to Texas. He came to this State with some preparation for the duties which he was assume as one of the first settlers. By reason of the faithfulness with which he discharged these duties as well as the general correctness of his life he was always found of good repute among his neighbors and after a life marked by more than ordinary activity, he died in the enjoyment of the esteem of those among whom he had long lived. He was an exceptional type of a man: of good natural ability, strong force of character, religious in temperament, earnest, active and industrious. He died in 1871.

His wife whose maiden name was Mary E. Smith, was a daughter of Mrs. Nancy Smith, originally from South Carolina, but an early settler of Alabama. Mrs. Pool was born in Alabama, where she was reared, and she is still living, making her home with her son Elbert W. Pool, in Milam county. Isaac and Mary E. Pool were the parents of twelve children whose names in the order of their ages, are as follows: James, who died at the

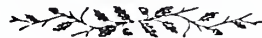


age of forty; John, who died at the age of twenty-two; Bryant, who is a resident of Milam county; Frances, the widow of Thomas Glenn, residing in Milam county; Mary, unmarried and residing in Milam county; William, who died in Milam county, leaving a family; Isaac M., the subject of this notice; Elbert W., a farmer of Milam county; Frank, who died in Milam county, leaving a family; Nancy, the widow of Frederick Price, living in western Texas; Zachary, who died in Milam county, unmarried; and "Doc" Ghent, of Milam county.

Isaac M. Pool, with whom this notice is mainly concerned, was born in Noxubee county, Mississippi, May 3, 1837. His early years were passed in that county, he being a lad of fourteen when his parents moved to Texas, settling in Milam county. His schoolastic training was restricted to a few months' attendance in the local schools. He entered the Confederate army in 1861, enlisting in Company G, Fifth Texas Cavalry, with which he entered field service in Virginia. He had been there only a short time when he was discharged on account of sickness and returned to Texas, where, however, he again entered the service, going into the transportation department where he remained till the close of the war. His service in this department was confined to hauling supplies from the southwestern frontier of Texas to the troops in the Trans-Mississippi Department. When hostilities had ceased he returned to Milam county, where he married, shortly afterward, went to Bosque county where he resided for a year and a half. He then returned to Milam county, where he rented a small farm and engaged in farming. In 1869 he bought a part of the place on which he now lives, settling here in that year. To this he has added by subsequent purchase until he owns

now 660 acres, 225 of which are in cultivation. Farming, stock-raising and, in later years, ginning have occupied his time and attention and he has met with reasonable success. He has been Justice of the Peace for four years in his precinct and somewhat active in local politics. He belongs to the Masonic order and has been a delegate to the Grand Lodge of the State. He has been a member for thirty-eight years of the Baptist Church, in which he occupies the positions of Deacon, Clerk and Superintendent of Sunday school.

March 9, 1865, Mr. Pool married Miss Mary E. Powell, a daughter of Green Powell and a native of North Carolina. To this union six children have been born: Della, the wife of William Henderson, of Cameron; Robert M., an attorney of Cameron; Frank, Alvin, Willie and Olive.



CAPTAIN DIONICIOUS O. HILL, late of Smithville, was born in Bastrop county, Texas, in 1843, a son of Thomas B. J. and Sarah L. S. (Oliver) Hill. The father was born in Oglethorpe county, Georgia, where he was early innred to farm labor. In 1835 he came to Texas, and, in company with his brothers, M. M. and A. W. Hill, purchased the head-right of General Edward Burleson, twelve miles east of Bastrop, on the Colorado river, paying fifty cents per acre. In the fall of 1835 Mr. Hill returned to Georgia, was married in the summer of 1840, and in the following fall came with his wife and negroes by the overland route to this State, locating on his portion of the league. He began farming on an extensive scale for those days, and followed that occupation until his death, although in 1850 he removed



to Bastrop, for the purpose of educating his sons. The family remained there until 1857. At one time the Indians stole some horses from his neighborhood, but they were pursued, a skirmish occurred on Ridgeway prairie, and the stock was rescued. On account of being a cripple, Mr. Hill did not participate in the war of 1846. In his political relations, he was a pronounced Democrat, and in 1861 was a member of the Convention of the State assembled at Austin for the purpose of voting, whether Texas should remain independent or cast its lot with the other States of the South. Mr. Hill's vote was registered in favor of the latter, and he contributed of his means to the cause to the full extent of his ability. He served as an agent for the Confederate Government in this section, and from his plantation the soldiers wives and children were supplied with provision and other necessities which they were not otherwise able to procure. After the close of the struggle, like many Southern gentlemen, he was much poorer financially. Many of his negroes remained with him until the crops of 1865 were gathered, and a number still remain at the old homestead. In 1866, after the return of his sons from the war, Mr. Hill gave them the management of the farm, and was retired from active work until his death, May 6, 1873, at the age of sixty-one years. His wife still survives, and resides with her children, aged sixty-nine years. She has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, since her girlhood. Mr. and Mrs. Hill had two children, Thomas A. and D. O.

Thomas A. Hill graduated at the Military Institute of Marietta, Georgia, in 1861. In the same year he joined the Third Battalion, under Major Capers, of Georgia, as Lieutenant. For a time he was assigned for duty

on General Stevenson's staff, was then transferred to the Forty-Second Georgia Infantry as Captain of Company I, was sent to Vicksburg, and was there captured and paroled. Returning to Texas, he served until the exchange, after which he was assigned to duty as Assistant General Inspector of Cavalry, under General Gano, and was stationed principally in the Indian Nation. During the summer of 1864 Mr. Hill was sent back to his company, rejoining his command at Dalton, Georgia, was wounded in the battle of Resaca, and as soon as able returned to his company. Mr. Hill was captured at the battle of Peach Tree Creek, and remained at Johnson's island until the close of hostilities. In the summer of 1866 he began merchandising at LaGrange, Texas; from 1870 to 1873 followed farming in Fayette county; was engaged in business at Columbus until the Southern Pacific Company built their road to Weimar, and was then engaged in merchandising in the latter city until 1885. He is now banking in Weimar.

Captain D. O. Hill, the subject of this sketch, received a good education in the college of Bastrop. In October, 1861, he enlisted for service in the late war, joining as a private Company D, Eighth Texas Cavalry, commonly known as Terry's Texas rangers, and was attached to the Army of the Tennessee, under Albert Sidney Johnston. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Murfreesborough, Chickamunga, siege of Knoxville; was in all the battles from Resaca to Atlanta, from the latter city to Savannah, Georgia; next to Columbia, South Carolina; thence to North Carolina, where he took part in the last battle of the Confederacy at Bentonville. He was paroled at Charlotte, North Carolina, in April, 1865. Mr. Hill served through the entire struggle, and





was never wounded or captured, and spent but little time at home on account of sickness. From Charlotte, North Carolina, to Oglethorpe county, Georgia, Mr. Hill rode his own horse; from there to the central part of the State had Government transportation, and from central Georgia paid his own way home, landing in this county November 18, 1865. At the time of the surrender he had but \$5 in greenbacks. Since returning home from the war Mr. Hill has followed agricultural pursuits, now owning 750 acres of land. In 1891 he erected a beautiful residence in Smithville, and since that time has made his home in this city.

December 25, 1866, he was married to Miss Nannic Aldridge, a native of Tennessee, and a daughter of John and Eliza (Hickerson) Aldridge. The parents came to Texas in 1852, when Mrs. Hill was quite small, and the father engaged in farming and stock-raising near Bastrop. He was the first to introduce the Durham breed of cattle in this county. Mr. Aldridge departed this life in 1862, and his wife survived him until 1869. They were the parents of six children: Mariah, wife of Thomas J. Smith; John H., of Parker county, Texas; Nannie, wife of our subject; Walter; William; and Mattie, wife of E. D. Oliver, of Weatherford, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have had three children: Susie B., the wife of G. W. Jones, Jr.; Walter A. and Thomas O. Mr. Hill is a member of the A. F. & A. M., J. Nixon Lodge, No. 421, and of Bastrop Chapter, No. 95.



**S** O. EIDMAN, a farmer and stock-raiser of Williamson county, Texas, was born in Europe, July 8, 1834, a son of Seamon O. and Catherine (Kraft) Eid-

man, natives also of Germany. The parents came to America in July, 1886, locating in San Felipe, Austin county, Texas, where the father died three weeks later, aged fifty-four years. He was a merchant in the old country, could speak five different languages fluently, and was a fine scholar. Mr. Eidman served in the European war in 1812, and for services there would have been entitled to a pension all his life had he lived, the family also being deprived of the same by coming to this country. Our subject now has in his possession a medal, awarded to his father for courage and bravery by the German Government, in 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Eidman were the parents of eight children, viz.: S. O., our subject; Lonie, who died in Austin county, Texas, during the war; Frederick G., who served in the same company as his brother, Colonel Terry's Regiment, served through the entire struggle, and died in 1877, leaving one child, Fred G., now attending the Southwestern University; Charles, who was accidentally shot before the war; Catherine, wife of F. A. Berner; Mollie J., wife of John W. Allen, of Sealy, Texas; Lizette and Frederick G., twins, and the former died when a babe, in 1846. Frederick G. married Mattie English, and she departed this life just thirty days after her husband's death, in 1877. Mr. Eidman, the father of our subject was twice married, and by his first marriage he had one child, Nettie, who was married to Jacob Hill, of San Felipe, but died about twelve months after marrying. The mother of our subject died in 1866, at the age of fifty-five years, having been a member of the Lutheran Church. She was a woman of wonderful business qualifications, deeply devoted to her family, always keeping in view their best interests and welfare. Her Christian life and sympathy extended to her entire acquaint-



ance, and in many ways she was a model mother, a choice neighbor, a cherished friend and a valuable citizen.

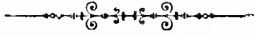
S. O. Eidman assisted in the maintenance of the family after the father's death, working two years at \$4 per month, but was swindled out of nearly half of his earnings, and in the meantime secured a position in a store of John Crntcher. Mr. Eidman hauled the latter's goods with ox teams from Houston to San Felipe, and the lumber for his store-house was hauled by him on a slide or sled, which he made himself, from the Brazos river to the lot upon which it was built. He then had enough money to buy another yoke of oxen, after which he went to Houston and purchased an ox wagon on time, paying \$115 for the wagon without the bed. During this time Mr. Eidman also bought a home in the town and another wagon, with which he engaged in freighting from Houston to San Felipe, and to the neighboring towns, where Indians were not troublesome. He succeeded in making sufficient money to educate his younger brothers and sisters, he being the oldest one of the children, and continued that occupation until 1856, at which time he had 200 or 300 head of horses, and a considerable stock of cattle. At the breaking out of the late war he owned about 1500 head of cattle, about 400 head of horses, worth from \$30 to \$50 a head, and five good negroes. He was exempt from service on account of holding the offices of Postmaster and Justice of the Peace of San Felipe, but toward the last of the struggle he furnished a substitute after having been in camp two weeks. During the war Mr. Eidman also furnished beeves to the soldiers, taking his pay in Confederate scrip, which he still holds. The soldiers also helped themselves, free of charge, to all his horses they could get, large enough to ride.

In 1865 he began the mercantile business at San Felipe, under the firm name of S. O. Eidman & Bro., which partnership continued until the brother's death, and the stock he then sold, in order to close up the firm's business, at a public sale, he agreeing to superintend the store for the following twelve months. In 1879 he was compelled to again buy the stock of goods, having never sold the house, and then conducted the business under the style of S. O. Eidman until the fall of 1891, and from that time until January, 1891, it was run by his nephew and brother-in-law, F. A. Berner. The store was then sold to our subject's brother-in-law and nephew. He changed his residence to Georgetown, Williamson county, in September 1879, to be convenient to a good school, namely, the Southwestern University, for the purpose of educating his children as well as for health and good society. He served as County Commissioner several terms in Austin county, was Alderman in both San Felipe and Georgetown, was appointed by the District Court as receiver of the first Texas Furniture Factory of Georgetown, was assignee of the late firm of Rucker & Montgomery, of this city, and for the past four years has been Agricultural Reporter of Williamson county, to General Rusk, of the Agricultural Bureau at Washington, D. C., and is now making monthly reports to the Hon. J. Sterling Morton, Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr. Eidman was married in 1870, to Miss Virginia Gregory, a daughter of Humbleton Gregory, of Fayette county, Texas. They have eight children, viz.: Charles Sidney and Katie May, pupils in the sophomore class of the Southwestern University; Seman O., in the preparatory class of the same institution; Jennie, Guy Gregory and Hugh Bryant, attending the public school; Kraft Hewitt; and



Humbleton S. Mr. and Mrs. Eidman and four of the children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Eidman has served as Steward for a long number of years, being also a member of the building committee for the new church. He has held all the offices in the K. of H., and has served as Secretary and Financial Secretary of the K. & L. of H. for over ten years. Mr. Eidman is one of the most enterprising and public-spirited citizens of Williamson county, and his life is one of progression and noble impulses.



**B**ENJAMIN J. GRESHAM, a merchant of Smithville, was born in Bastrop county, Texas, January 26, 1860, a son of Joseph and Martha L. (Coats) Gresham, natives of Georgia. The father came to Texas in 1838, and engaged in farming at Hill's prairie, Bastrop county. Two years later he purchased a farm five miles southeast of Webberville, on the old Walters' league, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits until the opening of the war with Mexico in 1846. He then entered the United States service, and participated in numerous battles. His death occurred in 1862. Mrs. Gresham still survives, and makes her home with her children. They were the parents of five children: Martha J., wife of J. M. Wilson; Antonette, now Mrs. J. N. Sandifer; John W., the next in order of birth; Anna, wife of J. W. Blair; and B. J., the subject of this sketch. Mr. Gresham was one of the most prominent Masons in the State, having taken all the degrees in that lodge from the first to the thirty-second. He was also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Benjamin J. Gresham received his education in the schools of Bastrop county. At the age of twenty years he engaged in the mercantile business with W. H. Rivers, under the firm name of Rivers & Gresham, at Elgin. This firm continued from 1881 to 1889, although in 1887 Mr. Gresham came to this city, where they established a branch store. In 1889 they dissolved partnership, our subject taking for his interest the store of Smithville. He continued alone until 1891, and in that year entered into partnership with E. H. Eagleston, under the firm name of B. J. Gresham & Co. The firm have two stores, in one of which they carry dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, groceries, etc., and in the other hardware, saddles, furniture, etc. They carry a stock amounting to \$10,000, and do an annual business of about \$35,000, employing three clerks during the greater portion of the year.

Mr. Gresham was married in 1883 to Miss Dora L. Davis, a daughter of Gallant Davis, of Elgin, Texas. To this union have been born five children: Wilber, Vernon, Bassil, Sherley and Charley. Mrs. Gresham is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., J. Nixon Lodge, No. 421; with Bastrop Chapter, No. 95, and the K. of P., Smithville Lodge, No. 92. Mr. Gresham is one of the most enterprising young merchants of Smithville, and is highly respected for his honest and upright dealings with all.



**P**ETER J. GILL, one of the leading farmers and country merchants of Bastrop county, was born in Mississippi, October 17, 1846, a son of Robert and Sallie M. (Johnson) Gill, natives





of Mississippi and Tennessee, respectively. The father followed farming many years, and in 1850 located in the old town of Bastrop, Texas, and was soon afterward elected Sheriff of the county. He held that office from the first election to the close of his life, in 1862, at the age of forty-seven years. During the late war he espoused the cause of the South, but did not participate in the struggle, as he was a cripple. He was a man of moderate circumstances on landing in this county, but his ventures here proved quite successful. Mrs. Gill survived her husband only until 1866, when she too departed this life. They were the parents of ten children, viz.: Thomas A., of Stockton, California; Nancy, deceased, was the wife of Bailey Stroud; Louisa, now Mrs. Kirk, of California; Eliza, deceased, was the wife of Reuben Stroud; Robert, of Bastrop; Joseph, a resident of the same county; Peter J., the subject of this sketch; Albert, of California; Mary, wife of G. N. Pierce, of Bastrop, and James, a resident also of Stockton, California.

P. J. Gill was educated in the town of Bastrop. In 1865 he joined Captain Hogan's company, Colonel Baylor's regiment of Texas Cavalry, and served for six months in the Trans-Mississippi Department, but never took part in any engagements. After the close of hostilities Mr. Gill engaged in farming and butchering in Bastrop, but two years later gave his attention entirely to the latter occupation, which he continued ten years. From 1881 to 1885 he was a dealer in stock, for the following three years resided in San Saba county, then remained in Bastrop until 1888, and in that year came to his present location. He owns part of one of the finest farms on the Colorado river in Bastrop county, which was located by his father-in-law in 1849. The place now has

1,100 acres under a fine state of cultivation. In 1890 Mr. Gill erected a good frame building on this place, where he is engaged in general merchandising, carrying a stock of \$5,000, and does an annual business amounting to about \$25,000. In addition to this, he also owns and conducts a public gin, and during the year of 1892 he ginned about 700 bales, 230 bales of which was raised on his own farm. He is also largely engaged in stock-raising.

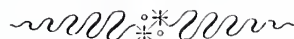
Mr. Gill was married October 27, 1875, to Miss Mary A. Moore, who was born in Bastrop county, Texas, December 27, 1855, the youngest child of Mayor A. Woods and Mary (Miller) Moore, natives of Alabama and Mississippi. The father came overland with his family and slaves to Texas, landing in Bastrop county in 1849. He immediately purchased the farm on which our subject now resides, consisting of a league of Colorado river bottom land. He afterward sold part of this tract until he owned a plantation of 1,750 acres for some years, but subsequently added 400 acres more. On first locating in this county, Mr. Moore was engaged in the sawmilling business on the east side of the river, in company with a Mr. Sims. In 1850 he began the erection of the handsome and commodious residence which still ornaments the farm, and which at that time was the finest residence in the county. Mr. Moore located the trees from which the lumber for this building was cut, and the lumber was sawed and the house erected under his own supervision. Mr. Moore continued the milling industry only a few years, after which he began the improvement of his farm. Under his able management the place soon developed into what is now one of the most beautiful places in the county. He followed farming until his death, in 1887,



although for two years after the close of the late war he followed merchandising in Bastrop, in company with Gilesby Morgan & Co.

Mr. Moore always took an active interest in politics. While a member of the State militia during the war, in which he held the office of Major, he was elected to represent the counties of this Senatorial district in the State Senate, and, after the close of the struggle, was twice re-elected to that position. Mr. Moore was a strict member of the Missionary Baptist Church almost from his boyhood days; was one of the best known members of that denomination throughout the State, and was noted for his charitable donations to church and public buildings. He was also a member of the A. F. & A. M. and the R. A. M. He was one of the prime factors in securing the railroad from Taylor, via Bastrop and Smithville, giving the company the right of way through his farm and \$1,000 in cash for the construction of the road. By his first wife Mr. Moore had five children—Thomas K., a farmer and stock-raiser, of Bastrop county; William Worth, deceased, was for many years a wholesale grocer at Galveston; James, a member of the firm of Moore, McKinney & Co., of that city; B. A., wife of Leigh Barleson, Attorney-at-Law, of San Saba, Texas; Mary A., wife of our subject. Mrs. Moore died in March, 1865, at the age of thirty-eight years. In 1871 Mr. Moore was united in marriage with Miss Anna Hubbard, a native of this county, and a daughter of A. M. and Martha (Jones) Hubbard. To this union was born one child—A. Woods. The wife and mother died in February, 1874, and ten years later the father married Mrs. Anna Trigg, *nee* Miller, a sister of his first wife. Mr. Moore departed this life October 5, 1887, at the age of seventy years. Mrs. Moore still resides

in the village of Bastrop. Mr. and Mrs. Gill have two children—Mary M and Effie B. Mrs. Gill and both daughters are members of the Missionary Baptist Church. Mr. Gill is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the I. O. O. F.



FRANK W. R. HUBERT, farmer of Milam county, son of Ben and Anna (Simpson) Hubert, is a native of Mobile, Alabama, born on the 17th day of September, 1847. His father was born in Mississippi, where he was reared and educated, being a son of David Hubert, a wealthy and influential planter of that State early in this century. David Hubert was of English descent, and born in Delaware, as was also his father Paul. He served in the American Revolution, and subsequently settled in Mississippi, where he devoted his last years to agriculture, which he carried on extensively with slave labor in the style of ante bellum days. The father of the subject of this notice came to Texas about 1836, being then a young man, and settled at Galveston, where he was engaged for a number of years in the mercantile business, in which he met with marked success. Later he moved to old Booneville, then the county seat of Brazos county, where, until his death in 1867, he was engaged in the real-estate business. He was quite successful in all his undertakings; was a public-spirited, patriotic citizen, and a potent political factor in central Texas thirty to forty years ago. He served as a volunteer in the Confederate army during the late war, held a number of local positions in Galveston and Brazos counties, and died in the enjoyment of the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. In



early life he belonged, in politics, to the American, or "Know-Nothing" party, but in later years went with the Democrats. He was a radical secessionist, although opposed to slavery. Having been reared in the belief of the doctrine of "States' rights," he remained "unreconstructed" in his views until his death. He was a great friend and admirer of General Houston, who was a frequent guest at his house. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity, and, while never making any open profession of religion, he was a believer in churches and in the salutary influences of church people. He leaned toward the Methodists in sectarian belief.

Anna (Simpson) Hubert, the mother of the subject of this notice, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in which State her people settled in Colonial times, being originally from Scotland. She is a daughter of Walter Simpson, who was a native of Maryland. She is still living, residing now in Rockdale, where she makes her home, and is ever ready to welcome her children, grandchildren and friends.

Of the ten children of Ben and Anna (Simpson) Hubert but five are now living. The full list is as follows: Ben, who died at Bryan in 1869; John C., who died at Paris in 1890; David, who died when young; Frank W. R., of this notice; Walter, who died at Dallas in 1887; Charles C., who is a stock-raiser residing at Lampasas; Hester and Annie (twins), the former the deceased wife of Judge John N. Henderson, of Bryan, and the latter the wife of Judge J. S. Perry, of Rockdale; Florence, the wife of Solon Joynes, of Rockdale; and Mary, the wife of John S. Bonner, of Tyler.

Frank W. R. Hubert was born at Mobile, Alabama, during a visit of his parents to relatives in that State, their home being at

Booneville, this State. He was reared in Texas and received his education in the schools of Brazos county, where he grew up. He assisted his father in his real-estate business until he was twenty years old, withdrawing from this in 1867 on account of ill health and going on a farm which he purchased in the Brazos bottoms, where he remained engaged in farming until 1874. At that date he located at Rockdale, where he embarked in the mercantile business, which he followed there for two years. He then married, and, having purchased the farm on which he now lives, he moved to it, where his time has since been passed pleasantly and profitably in agricultural pursuits, for which he has always had great taste. He has a farm of 250 acres, 150 acres of which is in cultivation and well stocked. His agricultural hobby, if he has one, is for fine fruit, Jersey cattle, pea fowls, and game chickens. Mr. Hubert is not one of those men who exhibits an undue desire to become land-rich or to accumulate property at the sacrifice of the natural demands of the mind and body. His motto has always been "to live and let live," and by this he means to live rationally. He is making proper provision for the comfort and pleasures of those about him, but he believes that a legacy of an honorable name, a fair education with good principles and correct habits are better things for children to begin the battle of life with than great wealth in any form. He married, as noted, in 1876, taking a companion in the person of Miss Mary M. Sanders, of Milam county, a daughter of Sherrod W. and Minerva Sanders, notice of whom will be found in the sketch of Sherrod F. Sanders, their son, which appears in this work. Mrs. Hubert is a native of Milam county, having been born on the old Sanders homestead near Rockdale, where





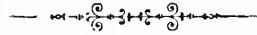
she was also reared, being married in the house in which her birth occurred. Mr. and Mrs. Hubert have had born to them a family of six children, all of whom are yet at home with their parents: Florence, Sherrod, Grace, Annie, Ross and Ralph,—all handsome, healthy children, one of them especially, Florence, a slender, blue-eyed girl of fourteen, with quiet, studious ways, who already gives promise of that great beauty of mind and person for which the ladies of her name are famous. The other little girls, Grace and Annie, are bright and intelligent, while the boys, Sherrod (or “Joncie,” as he is called) and Ross, already give evidence of good business qualities, and take quite an interest in the affairs of the farm. Mr. Hubert allows his children a liberal percentage of the income from the farm, and does not dictate to them how they shall spend their money. This makes them feel a personal interest in the matter.

Mr. Hubert votes with the Democrats, and, while never soliciting office of any kind, he has frequently been chosen to represent his fellow-citizens as a delegate to their county, district and State conventions, and has served as School Trustee ten years in the last twelve. The estimation in which he is held by his neighbors was shown at their last annual election when, of the thirty-nine patrons who voted, thirty five supported him for the office of Trustee, being the strongest vote ever received by any one for the office at Midway.

He is not a member of any church organization, but contributes to the different churches in his neighborhood. He has never chewed tobacco and was never drunk in his life, yet is fond of a glass of wine, and few men are better judges of a cigar than he. He believes in the “pay-as-you-go policy,” and

has never sued any one, or been sued for a debt which he had contracted.

Mr. Hubert is a great reader, and is a regular subscriber to no less than twelve papers and magazines. He is one of the most hospitable of men, and those who have met him at his home and felt the pressure of his hand and met the steady glance of his clear, blue eyes, will not soon forget it, particularly the hand-shake, for without doubt he has the most terrific grip in his hand of all men whom the writer has ever met.



**M**URRAY BURLESON, one of the leading citizens of Smithville, was born in Bastrop county, in 1849, a son of Joseph and Allie M. (Seaton) Burleson. The father was a son of Joseph Burleson, Sr., who came to Texas in 1833. He was a brother of the father of General Ed. Burleson, and the family all came from the same State. Joseph B., Sr., was a farmer by occupation, and after coming to this State was too old to take part in public affairs. His son Joseph, the father of our subject, came direct to Bastrop county, Texas, from Tennessee, in 1833, locating four miles northwest of Smithville, on the Colorado river. He remained in that neighborhood until 1852, and during that time the Indians were very troublesome. While residing there the celebrated stampede transpired. He was then in the Texas army, but after the fall of the Alamo he returned home to remove his family to a place of safety. Like many other settlers he had no wagon and only one horse, but, in company with a neighbor, they made a truck wagon, to which they hitched a yoke of young, wild steers, and thus kept pace with the other settlers,



although he was one of the last to start. His wife and two children rode the horse, and all arrived in safety at the Sabine river, where they remained until after the battle of San Jacinto. On leaving home they hid all their household effects possible in cliffs of rocks along the Colorado river. Mr. Burleson returned to his home late in the summer, and planted a crop of corn, which proved a success, and was a great blessing to the community. Although not in the regular State service, Mr. Burleson was a member of a company of minute men, and took part in many skirmishes with the Indians and Mexicans. In 1846 he moved to Buckner's creek, where he was engaged in farming and stock raising until 1860, and in that year moved to Burnet county. His death occurred there in 1892, at the age of eighty-four years.

Murray Burleson, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the country schools of Bastrop county, and also attended one session at the college in Bastrop. When about seventeen years of age he engaged in the stock business in this county, which he followed exclusively for five years. In 1868 he went to New Mexico as a hired hand, in 1870 drove a herd of stock to Kansas, in the following year made a second trip to that State, and in 1872 closed his stock interests and engaged in the mercantile business at old Smithville, in company with his brother-in-law, Dr. Taylor. Three years later Dr. Taylor sold his interest to Mr. Smith, and for the following three or four years the firm of Burleson & Smith had an extensive trade. In 1876 our subject bought most of the land on which Smithville is now located, and has since purchased considerable more real estate in and around the village. Mr. Burleson donated land to the M. K. & T. Railroad Company, for the purpose of locating a depot

at this place, and is secretary and treasurer of the Smithville Town Company, which controls 300 acres of fine land, the entire tract being surveyed and laid off in town lots. The business lots are 27 x 125 feet, and the residence lots 67½ x 125 feet. The land is situated in one of the most beautiful and picturesque valleys on the Colorado river. Mr. Burleson owns individually about 2,500 acres, located principally on the Colorado river, about 700 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. He also owns considerable city property.

In 1876 our subject was married to Susan E. Fawcett, born in this county February 22, 1854. They have had six children,—Marian W., deceased; Florence D., deceased; Susan J., Allie R., Sarah E. and Murray F. Mrs. Burleson is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church. In political matters, Mr. Burleson is a Democrat, and in 1882 was elected to the position of County Tax Collector, in which he served two terms. Socially, he is a member of the A. F. & A. M., No. 421.



**Z**INA P. EAGLESTON, one of the leading business men of Smithville, was born in Wihnington, North Carolina, in 1833, a son of S. V. and Julia A. (Mosley) Eagleston, natives respectively of Troy, New York, and North Carolina. The father moved from the latter State to Texas, via New Orleans and Galveston, and from Galveston came by team to Bastrop county, locating in the town of Bastrop, which at that time contained only a few houses. Mr. Eagleston was a carpenter by occupation, and many of the houses erected by him are still standing. The lumber for these houses was whip-sawed. He erected the first public



building in the city, which is two stories high, and is located on the river. This building was used for court purposes, a church, theatrical parties, balls and many other things. The house is now known as the Shepperd place. The old Claiborne house was also erected by Mr. Eagleston. During the stampede from Bastrop, in 1836, he took his family to the Trinity. He was a soldier in the Texas army, took part in the battles of San Jacinto, San Antonio, Gaudalupe, etc., and after the war of 1836, was a member of the minute men of Bastrop. In 1837 there was an alarm of Indians in that city, and the people congregated in block-houses or in the three forts. From eight to ten families were at the home of Mr. Eagleston. Being ill that night, he had occasion to be up late, and heard a peculiar noise at his horse lot, but, thinking he had better return for his gun, started for the house, when he was discovered by the Indians, and was shot in the stomach by an arrow. Mr. Eagleston succeeded in securing his gun, but after reaching the lot the Indian had escaped. He was shot on Monday night, and survived until the following Thursday. At his death he left a wife and seven children, all of whom grew to years of maturity in Bastrop: Mariah, deceased, was the wife of Graves Milligan; Jemima, who first married Hiram Turner, and after his death she became the wife of Walker Wilson, also now deceased; Mary, widow of Jonathan Davis; Zilphia, deceased, was the wife of Elias Jones; Amelia, deceased, was first married to James Read, and afterward became the wife of James Walker; Z. P., our subject; John G., deceased; and Sarah, who first married Samuel Churchill, and after his death became the wife of James Walker. Mrs. Eagleston survived until 1886, dying at the age of eighty-four years. She was a mem-

ber of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Eagleston was a member of the Masonic order.

Z. P. Eagleston, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the village of Bastrop, and began work for himself at the age of eight years, for the purpose of assisting his mother in supporting his sisters and brother, the latter being a cripple. At the age of fourteen years, weighing at that time only sixty-five pounds, he entered Captain Sam High Smith's Company of Texas rangers, was sent to the frontier, and took part in many battles. Their trip to Chihnahna was one of the most severe undertaken by any men. They were guided by a Mexican belonging to Colonel Hays' regiment of volunteer troops, numbering 250 men. Captain High Smith's company consisted of fifty Texas rangers, and they also had a Delaware Indian, known as Captain John Connor, with a small band of his own family. The expedition started from where Llano, Texas, is now located, but after reaching the mountains east of the Rio Grande, their provisions gave out, although they had started with forty days' rations, and the men began to kill and eat pack mules. After being lost for forty days the Mexican acknowledged that he was unable to find the way, and begged Colonel Hays to kill him. The latter would have done so, but was prevented by Captain Smith. The Delaware Indian then took charge as guide, and in four days brought them to water, which was the first that man or beast had tasted for four days and nights. Arriving at the pool of deep water on a mountain top, men and horses, with eyes protruding, nostrils extended and tongues swollen and parched to a blister, made a dash for the water. After resting two days they proceeded to Del Norte, and next to El Paso,



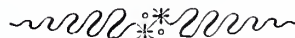


where they secured some breves, the Indian acting as guide until they returned to camp. They proceeded to Austin where they were discharged. Mr. Eagleston received \$22.50 per month for his services, and furnished his own outfit. Captain John Connor was a man whom early Texans loved to honor, being brave, intelligent and honest. On one occasion our subject saw him chasing a band of Waco Indians, whom the whites had been fighting for sometime, and he fired and loaded his gun eight times while running a mile on horseback.

At the age of eighteen years Mr. Eagleston began work at the blacksmith's trade, and at the age of twenty-three years he moved to a place called Hog Eye, near where Elgin is now located, where he conducted a shop for about three years. He then located on Ridgeway prairie, twenty miles from Bastrop, on the old San Antonio and Nacogdoches road, one of the oldest Mexican trails in the State, and which was a dividing line in the land survey. Mr. Eagleston there established a stock ranch on a league of land, where he remained for thirty years, and his ranch was considered one of the finest in the State. At the close of the war he was branding 2,500 calves each spring, and had about 500 head of horses. At the opening of the war, in 1861, he joined Captain High Smith's company, William H. Parsons' regiment of cavalry, and served in the Trans-Mississippi Department. He took part in the battles of Cotton Plant, Searey, Mansfield, Yellow Bayou, and was engaged in fighting General Banks from Mansfield to Alexandria, for forty-one days. He was twice wounded in one day in a skirmish against General Bank's men in Louisiana. He was shot in the right arm, just above the hand, from which he still suffers, and also through the body. After

the close of the struggle Mr. Eagleston resumed the stock business, but in 1873 retired from that occupation and devoted his time to farming until 1890. In that year he sold his ranch and moved to Smithville, where he embarked in mercantile and other occupations. He now owns a number of business and residence houses in Smithville, where he still resides.

In 1857, Mr. Eagleston was united in marriage with Mrs. Rebecca Scobey, a native of this State, and a daughter of John W. and Edith Lytle. The father located in Galveston county, Texas, in 1822, later moved to Brazoria, and his death occurred at Houston. He was one of the noted men of his county. Mr. and Mrs. Eagleston have had two children. One son, Edward H., is engaged in business in Smithville. He married Miss Mollie Clark, a native of Mississippi, and they have three children: Ida May, Zina P. and Edward G. Mr. Eagleston has been a member of the I. O. O. F. since his twenty-first year, and now also affiliates with the L. of H.



**J** C. HIGGINS.—In 1840 there landed at Galveston a young man who was destined to leave the impress of a strong character upon the social and physical life of Texas, and who now lives, in the person of the above subject, an example to the youth of the land, and of the possibilities of a life of honest, earnest and patient toil. Mr. Higgins was born in Caledonia county, Vermont, November 2, 1815, a son of Samuel and Betsey (Chamberlain) Higgins. The parents came to America on the same ship, the father from Ireland and the mother from England, and acquaintance on board ship resulted in marriage on land. They located in Caledo-



nia county, Vermont, where the father died when our subject was but four years of age, and the mother when he had just passed his sixth year.

J. C. Higgins, the subject of this sketch, was thus thrown upon the world's mercy. The Fairbanks family, of Fairbanks Standard Scales fame, were relatives, Mrs. Erastus Fairbanks, whose husband and son have both filled the Governor's chair of Vermont since that time, having been a Chamberlain, and a full cousin to the mother of our subject. He was taken to their home, and during their entire lifetime was treated in every respect as one of their sons. The orphan boy was so much impressed with the kind treatment received that he never lost correspondence with them, and the name of Erastus Fairbanks has become a fixture in the Higgins family. The boy grew to manhood in this home, and was given every opportunity to perfect himself in the trade of a machinist and millwright. At maturity Mr. Higgins found himself a competent and trusted assistant, and it was in the discharge of a duty given only to such a person that he became separated from the Fairbanks home. In 1836 he was sent by a firm to superintend the building of a sawmill on one of the Alabama rivers. The undertaking successfully completed, he concluded to try his hand at steamboat engineering, and for the following three years plied the rivers of Alabama.

From his conversation with passengers on the boat, who were returning from Texas, he gathered a good idea of the immense resources of this State, and in the spring of 1840 determined to try his fortune in the Lone Star State. Landing at Galveston March 16, of that year, Mr. Higgins journeyed on to Austin, then a hamlet of a few straggling houses, subject to the depredations

of the Comanche and Mexican. The first few months were spent with surveying parties, and on expeditions against the Indians. In the following June he concluded to settle at Bastrop, and accordingly engaged to run a mill near that point. He was then without means, and for two years worked for wages, carefully laying up what he did not need for actual expenses. In this way, in 1842 he was enabled to buy the mill from his employer, and thus became for the first time owner of Texas soil, ten acres of ground being included in the mill site. The mill was located on Copperas creek, about two miles from Bastrop. Mr. Higgins early saw the profit investments in fine land would bring, and accordingly threw all his energies in the work. Lands and mills were secured, which required much help, and at the freedom of slave labor Mr. Higgins lost eighty negroes. The war was further disastrous to him in the nullifying of contracts. However, the increased demand for farms after the close of the struggle soon made the land, from which all the timber had been cut, more valuable than ever before, and Mr. Higgins again became wealthy. He still retains his place as one of the solid men in his community, although of late years he has given much of his land to his children. From 1871 to 1885 Mr. Higgins added merchandising to his other business interests, and also did some private banking. He continued the latter occupation until the fall of 1892, when he retired from active business.

He was first married in Bastrop county, in December, 1843, to Sarah Gamble, who died in 1849. They had two children: William, a farmer of Bastrop county; and Erastus Fairbanks, who died leaving one child, Claude C., who resides with his grandfather. Mr. Higgins was again married, in Seguin, Gau-



dalupé county, in 1852, to Mary Keener, and they had five children, three of whom grew to years of maturity: Samuel, a farmer of Bastrop county; Blanche, wife of Brook Duval, also of that county; and Horace, deceased. The latter received a fine education, graduating at the University of the South, at Swanay, Tennessee, and later in the law department of the University of Virginia. After returning home he became a partner of Hon. Sayres, now Congressman from this district, and an intimate friend of our subject. Horace Higgins started on a career that would certainly have been a brilliant one, if death had not cut short his young life. He lived but three months after beginning the practice of law, dying January 4, 1880. Mrs. Higgins died in 1861, and in Bastrop county, in 1867, our subject married Mrs. Caroline Yellowly. Her daughter, Charlton, became Mrs. Briger, and now resides in San Angelo, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins have two daughters: Lela, wife of Pope Holland, of Atlanta, Georgia; and Fairbanks, aged fifteen years. Mr. Higgins has been too much immersed in business to take an active part in politics, although in 1857, on returning from a visit to his benefactor's home in Vermont, he found he had been elected to the Legislature. He votes with the Democratic party. Mr. Higgins has been a Mason since 1848, and has taken all the chapter degrees of that order. He is Senior Warden of the Episcopal Church at Bastrop.



**D**ANIEL S. CHESSHER, County Judge of Williamson county, was born in Overton county, Tennessee, September 16, 1836, son of John B. and Louisa A. (Gaines) Chessher, both natives of of Tennes-

see. The father was a farmer but when young was engaged in teaching. During the Indian war he was under General Jackson, but with this exception led an uneventful life, dying in 1853, aged sixty-three years. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The latter survived her husband, dying in 1863, aged sixty-three. Five children were born in this family, namely: Lucinda, died at the age of seven; Benson B., died at the age of sixteen years; our subject; Sarah G., widow of W. W. Nicholas, resides in Georgetown; and James F., who enlisted in Tom Green's brigade in 1862, died in the army at the age of eighteen years when on the way back from New Mexico.

Our subject was educated at the country schools in Texas, having come to the State with his family in 1838. They settled in what was Walker county, but later removed to Montgomery county. After completing his course in the country schools he had the additional advantage of attending the Waverly Institute in Walker county, after which he studied medicine and attended the medical department of the University of Louisiana, graduating therefrom in 1859. After graduating he returned to Industry, Austin county, Texas, where he practiced ten years.

At the outbreak of the war he enlisted as a private, but was elected Second Lieutenant of Company A, Twentieth Texas Volunteer Infantry, serving in that capacity until the close of the war. During that time he was in General S. P. Mosely's division, Harrison's brigade, participating in the battle of Galveston, January 1, 1863 and in several bombardments afterward. He continued to serve until the close of the war, when he retired to his home and resumed the practice of his profession, continuing in it until 1870, when





he rented a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits. About this time he decided to abandon the practice of medicine and began reading of law. So faithful was he in his studies in this direction that, in 1873, he was licensed to practice and has continued in this profession ever since. He settled in Georgetown, in 1875, and has resided here continuously ever since. The office of County Judge was offered him in 1876, and he held it until 1878, when he was again elected, holding the position until 1880. At that date he retired from public office until 1888, when his name again came before the people as nominee for the same office on the Democratic ticket. So popular is he that he was elected without opposition, and re-elected in 1890, with a majority of 2,414 votes over his opponent a Third Party man.

Judge Chessher was married, November 7, 1860, to Miss Elizabeth Bettie Daughtrey, daughter of Bryant and Anna Daughtrey, of Austin county, Texas. Four children have been born to them, namely: Nora; Daniel S., Jr., married to Miss Laura Snider, of Georgetown, daughter of Captain J. W. Snider; John B., with his father in his farming interests; and Joe M., still at home. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he is a Trustee and Steward. He is also connected with the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery and has filled the position of High Priest of his lodge and District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, beside serving as a delegate to many State conventions. He is also a prominent member of the Knights and Ladies of Honor, of Texas.

On his mother's side our subject comes of illustrious stock. Her father, James Gaines, was a member of the committee that declared

the independence of Texas in 1836, and, belonged to the committee which drew up that instrument and also the first constitution of the State of Texas. Judge Chessher is well known throughout the entire county, being noted for his impartial judgment and fair decisions.



G. W. JONES, a prominent and successful man of Bastrop county, was born on the farm on which he still resides, in 1864, a son of Benjamin F. and Margaret V. (Wilson) Jones. The father came to Texas with his father and brother, G. W. Jones, in an early day, and engaged in farming where our subject now resides. He died April 21, 1884, leaving five children: G. W., our subject; Rachel, wife of Dr. Powell; Frankie, wife of Granville Winston, of Smithville; and W. D. C. and James S., at home. The mother is still living. Mr. Jones was a member of the A. F. & A. M., Gamble Lodge, and of the R. A. M., Bastrop Lodge, No. 95.

G. W. Jones, the subject of this sketch, was educated at Bastrop and Tehuacana, Limestone county. At the age of twenty-one years he began work for himself, as manager of his father's estate, which contained 1,200 acres in cultivation. January 1, 1893, the property was divided, and Mr. Jones now has 350 acres of share under a fine state of improvement. In 1892 he embarked in the drug business, in company with O. G. Decherd, under the firm name of C. Decherd & Co. They erected a two-story brick building. In 1890 Messrs. Jones and Powell purchased a steam cotton gin and gristmill at Smithville, which they still operate. Our subject also owns an addition to the town of Smithville, consisting of eight acres.



He was married December 15, 1885, to Miss Susie Hill, a daughter of Captain D. O. Hill. Mrs. Jones is a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Jones affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., J. Nixon Lodge, No. 421, with Bastrop Chapter, No. 95, and with the Knights of Pythias, Smithville Lodge, No. 92.



**J**OHAN FAWCETT, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born in London, England, December 18, 1815, a son of John and Mary (Slater) Fawcett, natives also of England. After coming to this country, the father followed the carpenter's trade at Cincinnati and that vicinity, and his death occurred in 1833. His wife survived him until 1860. They were the parents of five children, viz.: Thomas, who died in Cincinnati, at the age of twenty-five years; John, our subject; Mary A., wife of Henry Bates, of Cincinnati; Sarah, who first married a Mr. Crayon, and is now the wife of Jacob Eppley, of Cincinnati; and William, who came to Bastrop county, Texas, in 1850, and now makes his home among his children.

John Fawcett came with his parents to America when three years of age, landing at Baltimore, Maryland, and later went to Wheeling, West Virginia. In the latter city he built a flat boat, floated down the Ohio river, and arrived at Cincinnati December 25, 1818. He remained under parental care until fifteen years of age, when he took a drove of horses to South Carolina, made other trips for a few years, and in the fall of 1836 brought a number of race horses to Texas. Mr. Fawcett took his stock to Houston and Galveston, and in 1845 came to Bastrop county. After locating in this county he purchased a small tract of land, to which he has since added un-

til he now owns 3,100 acres, 500 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. His large, two-story brick dwelling is located on the bluff, 150 feet above the valley, and this is one of the most beautiful residence sites in the State. Mr. Fawcett conducts a gin for the use of his own farm. In an early day he built and conducted a sawmill on his timber land, and hauled lumber to Austin and San Antonio. In 1862 he assisted in organizing a cotton factory at Bastrop, but which was discontinued after the close of the war. He next, in 1865, opened a large stock of general merchandise in this city, but on account of low prices this proved unsuccessful, and he sold his store in 1867. Since that time Mr. Fawcett has given his time and attention entirely to his large farm. He has about twenty tenement houses on his place, and raises about 150 bales of cotton annually, also an abundance of corn. Since farming in Bastrop county, he has lost only two crops, one from overflow, and the other from drouth and grasshoppers.

Mr. Fawcett was married in 1845, to Miss Marian W., a daughter of Joseph Burleson, Sr., who came to Bastrop county, Texas, in 1832. He was too old to take much interest in the range service, but assisted the frontiersmen all he was able. He was a prominent farmer and slave owner, and his death occurred in 1849. Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett had seven children, two now living: Josephine P., wife of Robert T. Wilkins, a farmer of Bastrop county; and Susan E., wife of Murry Burleson, the owner of the town site of Smithville, and one of its most enterprising men. Mrs. Fawcett died in 1856, and in 1858 our subject married Miss Sarah E. Rhem, who was born March 29, 1840, a daughter of Dr. Wm. B. and Sarah (Drew) Rhem, natives of North Carolina. The father



practiced medicine from early life, and was also a Baptist minister. He came to Fayette county, Texas, in 1854, where he gave up the practice of medicine, and devoted his time to the ministry and farming. He died in that county in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Rhem had seven children: Sarah E., now Mrs. Fawcett; Susan, wife of G. Hill, of Bosque county, Texas; Caroline, wife of S. Kenady; Annie E. was the wife of Thos. J. Hardiman, deceased; Amanda, wife of Judson Williams; Lillie, who married a Mr. Darby; and the next child died when young. Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett have had five children, namely; Jesse R., deceased at the age of eight years; John Sumpter, who died while attending Baylor University, Independence, March 11, 1881, at about the age of twenty years; Albert G., aged thirty years, is married, and resides at Smithville; Minnie S., wife of T. G. Sayers, also of this city; and Clarence, aged twenty-five years, is assisting his father on the home farm. Mr. Fawcett affiliates with the Democratic party, and both he and his wife are members of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**S**HERROD F. SANDERS, the subject of this brief biographical notice, one of Milam county's representative farmers, is a son of Sherrod W. Sanders, a native of Alabama, born in 1812, who after marriage in his native State, moved in 1853 to Texas, and settled in Milam county on a farm six miles north of the present town of Rockdale, where he subsequently lived and died. He was for many years one of this county's leading farmers and stock-growers, and left at his death what was considered at that time a very respectable fortune. He

led a quiet, orderly life, staying closely about his home and attending strictly to his own business, but interested himself in neighborhood and county affairs to that extent that his judgment dictated as proper, being always ready to help those around him who stood in need of his help and to whom he could render assistance as friend and neighbor. He was a member of the Methodist Church for many years and an Odd Fellow in good standing in the order. He had been Justice of the Peace in Alabama but never filled any public offices in this county. His parents, William and Susan Sanders, were very early settlers in Alabama, where they died, his father being a planter of means and good standing in the locality where he lived.

The mother of the subject of this notice, Minerva Duke, like her husband, was born in Alabama, her parents who were South Carolinians by birth, having settled in Alabama in early Indian times. She and her husband were married in 1852, and the following year came to Texas. They had five children, four of which reached maturity and are now living: Sherrod F., of this sketch; Green Terrell, a farmer of Milam county; Alabama, the wife of George E. Marshall, of Cameron, and Minerva May, the wife of Frank W. R. Hubert, of this county.

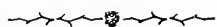
Sherrod F. Sanders was born in Alabama, February 16, 1853. He was reared on the old homestead in the southwest part of Milam county, spending his boyhood and youth, or the greater part of it, like most other boys of that date, in the saddle, and received only such educational advantages as were offered by the schools of the county twenty-five years ago, which it may be added were meager enough. In 1876 he married Miss Idella E. Cooper, a daughter of A. D. Cooper, of Milam county, and the same year settled on





part of his father's homestead which had been set aside to him where he began farming for himself. A year later he had the misfortune to lose his wife, she dying and leaving one child, a daughter named for herself, now a grown young lady. In 1880 Mr. Sanders married again, this time to Miss Ada Florence Pickens, a native of Tennessee, and a daughter of John F. and Lettie J. Pickens, who moved to Texas about 1875, and settled in Milam county. To this union five children have been born: Lettie Minerva, William F., Luella, Wallace, Imogene.

Mr. Sanders has a farm consisting of 250 acres, 150 acres of which is in cultivation and furnished with all the necessary appliances for successfully carrying on the same. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church, of which he is Steward, and they have a pleasant home which they have surrounded with the needful comforts and good Christian influences.



**H**ON. JAMES M. McKINNEY, Senator from the Eleventh Senatorial district, composed of the counties of Milam, Falls and McLennan, is a native of Coosa county, Alabama, where he was born October 5, 1841. His parents were Jasper and Martha (Bozeman) McKinney, both of whom were also natives of Alabama. Jasper McKinney was a son of Harris and Jennie (Ivy) McKinney, and Martha Bozeman was a daughter of Nathan and Harriet Bozeman. In the sketch of W. E. Bozeman, which appears elsewhere in this volume, will be found a historical review of the Bozeman family. The McKinneys, Ivys and Bozemens were all early immigrants to America, coming originally from Scotland, England and Germany respectively, and belonged to

that class of sturdy, industrious, quiet, home-loving and church-building people who flocked from Europe to these shores during the early years of the last century and whose influences have told powerfully in the history of civilization in the Western World. The progenitors of the subject of this sketch settled probably first in Virginia and the Carolinas, as the lines have been traced back to these States. The McKinneys and Bozemens are known from the records to have been early settlers both in Georgia and Alabama, in each of which States they were among the substantial people and, in occasional instances, conspicuous figures, in the communities where they lived. The parents of James M. McKinney were born, the father in 1821, and the mother in 1823. They were married in 1840, and twelve years later, in 1852, moved to Texas, settling in Milam county, where the mother still resides, the father dying here in 1880. The father was a plain farmer, but possessed ample means and passed his years on earth in peace and comparative ease. On his removal to this State he came overland, bringing, in the patriarchal manner common in those days, his flocks, herds, servants and household effects, with which he immediately resumed his chosen calling, that of farming and stock-raising, in his new home. He freed his slaves, however, not long after arriving in the State, being opposed to the institution. The office of Justice of the Peace, which he held both in Alabama and Texas, was the only elective position to which he was ever called, his time being taken almost exclusively with his own interests. In politics he was a Democrat and for twenty-five years an active and earnest member of the Baptist Church. His wife was an industrious woman, devoted to her household affairs and



a zealous Christian. They were the parents of eleven children, four sons and seven daughters: Mary F. is the widow of James Pool and resides at Marlin, Falls county; Jennie is the wife of J. W. Porter, of Burleson county; Hattie is the wife of John Carlton, of Milam county; Ann is the wife of A. M. Vandivere, of Milam county; Nathan B. is a resident of Marlin, Falls county; Florence, the wife of Rev. C. P. Lumpkin, of Hill county, now deceased; Patrick H. lives in Milam county; Mattie is the wife of J. E. Cosby, of Abilene; Alice is the wife of J. A. Smith, of Milam county; Adoniram J. is a resident of Milam county, and Emma died in infancy.

James M. McKinney was in his tenth year when his parents moved to Texas. He was reared in Milam county, in the private and select schools of which he received his early education. He also attended for a few months Sonle University, at Chappel Hill, Washington county, but left this institution at the age of seventeen and entered the local academy at Port Sullivan, Milam county, where he spent two years.

In August 1861, before he had entered his twentieth year, he joined the confederate army, enlisting in Company G., Captain J. S. Rogers, Fifth Texas Infantry, commanded by Colonel Archer. After a few months' service in this command Mr. McKinney was discharged, but re-enlisted in March, 1862, becoming a member of the Seventeenth Texas Infantry, commanded by Colonel T. P. Allen and later by Colonel G. W. Jones. He was in active service from the date of his enlistment till the surrender and took part in a number of important engagements, the chief of which were those following Banks' Red river campaign. Receiving his discharge at Hempstead, this State, in May,

1865, he returned home, where he immediately took up the pursuits of peace.

Marrying in 1866, Mr. McKinney settled on a farm on Jones' Prairie, where he engaged in agriculture and stock-raising, which he has followed steadily at that place since. He is regarded as one of the most successful farmers of Milam county, and one of the largest, owning 800 acres of land lying in one of the richest agricultural sections of the county, 325 acres of which is under cultivation. Mr. McKinney has resided in the vicinity where he now lives nearly all of his life, and, having been identified with the best interests of the locality, has grown to be the most prominent and influential man in that community. He came into general notice first in 1884 when he was made the nominee of the Democratic party for the State Legislature and was elected and represented Milam county in that body by successive re-elections until 1890, when he was nominated for the State Senate and was elected to represent the district composed of the counties of Milam, Robertson and Brazos. By the reapportionment Milam county was thrown with Falls and McLennan and in November, 1892, Mr. McKinney was chosen to represent this district. He has thus seen a little more than ten years of continuous service in one branch or the other of the Legislature, during which time he has become familiar with the course of legislation, has formed a wide acquaintance among Texas legislators and politicians and has accomplished much lasting good for the people whom he has been called to represent.

On all questions which have come before the bodies of which he has been a member he has always aligned himself with the most stalwart representatives of the people, opposing class legislation, undue corporate in-



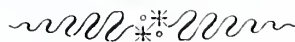
fluences and monopolistic tendencies. Although a farmer and directly interested in the passage of all measures favorable to agriculture he has endeavored to take a broad view of matters on which he has been called to act, giving to each interest its full protection and to all measures proper consideration. For six years in the House he was a member of the Finance committee, and for two years he served as a member of the same in the Senate. As long as he was a member of the House he served on the committee on Revenue and Taxation and for four years he served in the same body he was chairman of the committee on Counties and County Boundaries. In the Senate he has served as chairman of the committee on Agriculture and as a member of Judiciary No. 1, Constitutional Amendments, Finance, Penitentiaries and Internal Improvements. In the twenty-third session of the Legislature he was a member of the Senate committees as follows: chairman of committees on State Affairs and Labor, and member of committees on Internal Improvements, Town and City Corporations, Roads and Bridges, Frontier Protection, Public Printing, Agricultural Affairs, Insurance Statistics and History and Finance.

In the twenty-second Legislature Mr. McKinney took advanced ground on the railroad commission bill and alien land bill, favoring rigid enactment in each case, and gave his views freely to the public, both on the public platform before the election and on the floor of the House after he was elected.

Mr. McKinney enjoys a great deal of popularity with the people of his district, but it is not that fleeting, ephemeral popularity so often elicited by what is called magnetism and which not unfrequently disappears as mysteriously as it comes. His

followers are attached to him because they believe in him. Knowing him to be honest and earnest in what he does and possessed with a reasonable capacity to intelligently serve them, they have learned to place implicit confidence in him and to abide cheerfully by his action as their representative. Mr. McKinney makes but little pretension as a public speaker and none as a politician. When occasion demands he can set forth his views with clearness, and does so at all proper times, and he understands also the necessity of organization in party politics, but he never indulges in empty oratorical display and does not believe in the manipulation of conventions and primaries for personal ends.

On the 5th day of October, 1866, Mr. McKinney married Roxy, the daughter of Major T. A. Goodwin. To Mr. and Mrs. McKinney two children were born—Fannie and Mattie. The wife and mother died in 1874 and a year later he married Mrs. Sarah J. Chappell, widow of Robert H. Chappell and daughter of James and Harriet McIntyre. This lady was born June 7, 1842, in Washington county, Texas, where she was reared and educated. To this union five children have been born—J. Alma; Mattie, Emma, Ethel and Carlton. The religious connection of the family is with the Baptist Church, in which Mr. McKinney has for some years been Deacon and represented his congregation a number of times at important district and State assemblies.



**V** R. C. AVERY, a leading farmer and County Commissioner of Williamson county, Texas, was born in Bastrop county, this State, January 1, 1834. He is





a child of the frontier. His physique indicates the development of a vigorous constitution, the result of open-air exercise on both the farm and the range. His genial and hospitable nature is peculiar only to men of his latitude.

Willis Avery, the father of V. R. C., was born in North Carolina, October 17, 1809. His father was also named Willis Avery, and he, too, was a native of North Carolina. The latter was a mariner and made many voyages across the Atlantic, on one of which he died and was probably buried at sea. His wife was Catherine Overton, and Willis was their only child. Some time after the death of her husband, Mrs. Avery married William McCutcheon. They had two children—William and Collins Avery, the latter remaining in Tennessee. The domestic relations of the family were marred by the disagreements of its heads, and when William was about six years old his mother and half-brother, Willis, emigrated to Missouri and located in Lincoln county. Mrs. McCutcheon was married a third time, her last husband being Joseph Jennings, who was probably killed during the Texas Revolution. He brought his family to Texas the year of the battle of San Jacinto and took up his residence in Bastrop county. Mr. and Mrs. Jennings had four children, as follows: Abigail, the deceased wife of John Talk; Joseph, deceased; Catherine, whose first husband, a Mr. Whistler, was killed by the Indians, and who was subsequently married to Sylvester Lockwood; and Samuel.

Willis Avery was married in Missouri to Elzina Weeks. He was induced to come to Texas by the offer of cheap lands from those colonizing the new country, and in 1832 drove his teams through and joined Austin's colony. He located in Bastrop county, on

the Colorado river, and engaged in the pursuits of the farm and range. He bought a tract of land of Wilbarger, a brother of a noted Indian fighter.

When Texas called for volunteers to assist in establishing her independence, Mr. Avery responded and followed General Houston till the capture of Santa Anna and the termination of the conflict. Later on he helped swell the ranks of the minute men for service against the Indians in those counties, and many are the battles in which he was an active participant. One of these fights—and probably the most noted one—was the Brushy creek fight, in Williamson county, near where Taylor now stands. It was here that Jake Burleson was killed. In recognition of his services at San Jacinto, the State issued to Mr. Avery a head-right, which he located in Williamson county, near where his son, the subject of this sketch, now resides, and on this tract he spent the rest of his life and died, his death occurring July 17, 1889. He was a man of good business ability, and his accumulations enabled him to leave an estate valued at \$45,000. He was a life-long Democrat, but was not an active politician. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Avery, viz.: Nancy, the widow of William Bryant, of Williamson county; Malinda, who died at the age of thirty; V. R. C., whose name appears at the head of this article; Thomas; Willis, deceased; Lucinda, the wife of E. U. Kimbro; Henry; Calvin, and Harriet, who married J. T. Christian, of San Saba county.

V. R. C. Avery had limited educational advantages. His was the day of private teachers, and the supply of knowledge of the average pupil was generally measured by the size of the father's wallet. A good supply of muscle was Mr. Avery's largest and



most potent resource when he reached his majority. He hired out for two years at \$20 per month, doing farm work. His next venture was to drive team on the shares between Bastrop and Houston and Port Lavaca. When he ceased this work he returned home, bought a small stock of cattle and engaged in farming. With the exception of three years during the war, Mr. Avery continued in the stock business until 1873, getting fair returns for the labor and money expended. In 1871 he began driving to Kansas markets, and ceased these drives with the closing out of his business three years later. He then bought land and opened up the farm upon which he now resides. Here he has 712 acres of black waxy soil, 400 acres of which he is cultivating. Last year, 1892, his yield of cotton was 125 bales.

Politically, Mr. Avery is a Democrat, but until October, 1892, he took no more than a citizen's interest in the success of his party. At this time he was appointed to a vacancy existing in the office of County Commissioner of his precinct by the appointment of the incumbent, Mr. Brookshire, to the office of Sheriff. This was filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to the people, and last November he was elected to succeed himself.

In May, 1862, Mr. Avery enlisted in Captain S. M. Strayhorn's company, Colonel Gurley's Thirtieth Texas Cavalry, and with his command participated in numerous engagements west of the Mississippi. He was in the battles near Fort Smith and Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, and also took part in the Cabin creek fight. In February, 1864, he returned to his company, after having been absent on a furlough some weeks, and was scouting about in the Territory until the close of hostilities. His command was

disbanded on the Little Brazos in May, 1865.

In January, 1862, Mr. Avery married Mrs. McLaurin, daughter of Bartlett Sims, one of the oldest pioneers of this State. By her first marriage Mrs. Avery had one child, now Mrs. J. L. Bryant. Her only child by Mr. Avery died when it was six weeks old. May 16, 1866, she passed away, and November 14, 1868, Mr. Avery married Jennie Harvey, one of the seven children of James and Jane (Reed) Harvey. Mr. Avery and his present wife have had seven children: Charles, Robert Harvey, Woody, Cora, Edgar, Eugene and Lela. All are living except Charles. The family are members of the Methodist Church.



**R**OBERT A. JOHN, County Attorney of Williamson county, was born in Bastrop county, Texas, September 7, 1864, a son of Rev. L. G. and Ruth (Eblen) John. The mother was a daughter of John Eblen, a native of Tennessee, who came to Texas in 1827. He was a minister of Stephen and Austin counties, and his death occurred in this State in 1827, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife, *nee* Miss Baker, died when Mrs. John was an infant. Our subject's paternal grandfather, E. D. John, a banker of Cincinnati, failed financially in 1848. He then came to Williamson county, Texas, erected the first flour mill in the county, at Florence, but sold the same just before the close of the war to Mr. Atkinson. Mr. John then went to Galveston, and there, in company with Hiram Close, built the first cotton compress in Texas, which was also among the first in the United States. He died in 1871, aged eighty-one years, having been a member of the Methodist Church.



L. G. John, the father of our subject, was a native of Indiana. He was editor of the *Texas Christian Advocate*, now published at Dallas, for nineteen years. After resigning that position, he was elected by the General Conference of the Methodist Church, South, as Secretary of the Board of Missions, accordingly moved to Nashville, and has held that position eight years. Mr. John is now sixty-seven years of age, was well known over Williamson county as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is a man of marked personality, deeply pious, and an able expounder of the gospel. His first marriage ceremony was performed at the Brazos river, April 18, 1850, to C. A. D. Clamp and Miss Asenath Davis. The mother of our subject was born in Texas, in 1833, under the Mexican Government, she having lived in this State about one-half a century, and during that time was under four different governments, viz.: Mexico, Texas, Confederate and United States. She died in 1879, aged forty-four years, having been a life-long member of the Methodist Church. Mrs. John was a lady of unusual spiritual repose, with a rare gift of godly influence over young and old. She was accomplished, a most pleasant and agreeable lady, and was a minister's wife in every sense of the term, having been perfectly loyal to the best interests of her husband and the people whom they served. Mr. and Mrs. John were the parents of four children: Alfred S., deceased; George, mailing clerk of the *Galveston News*, married Miss Rachel Fink; Annie E., wife of John Stone, a planter of Austin county, Texas, and they have two children, Robert J. and Lawrence M.; Robert A., our subject; Ruth H., at home; Walter N., a student of the *Galveston Medical College*; and Maggie S., at home. Alfred S. was a member of the law firm of O'Brien

& John, at Beaumont, Texas, was a prominent attorney in that part of the State, and worked principally for the Texas & New Orleans Railroad. He died while serving as Mayor of Beaumont, in 1888. He married Miss Emma O'Brien, and they had two children—Erma and Alfred.

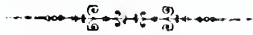
Robert A. John took the degree of B. A. in the Southwestern University, in the class of 1884, also receiving the highest honors of the class and the orator's medal. He then taught school at Round Rock college for a time, studied law with Fisher & Towns, and was admitted to the bar in January, 1885. In April, of that year, Mr. John was elected City Attorney, elected County Attorney in 1888, re-elected in 1890, and again in 1892, having had no opposition at the last two elections. His record as County Attorney, as shown by the reports to the State Comptroller, makes his averages of successful prosecutions higher than any county attorney in Texas.

December 28, 1887, our subject was married to Miss Maggie S. Morrow, a daughter of Captain G. C. S. Morrow, of Georgetown, and a granddaughter of General Sam Houston, the hero of San Jacinto. Mr. and Mrs. John have four children: Barrett M., Margaret E., Jennie H. and Ruth E. Mr. and Mrs. John are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject is a member of the Masonic order, chapter and commandery, also of the I. O. O. F. and K. of P. He has passed all the chairs in the latter organization, and is now representative of his lodge to the Grand Lodge for 1893-'94, and is a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Politically, he takes an active interest in the Democratic party, and during the last election stamped his county for that party. Mr. John has faithfully discharged his duties as a citizen and officer during his busy and event-





ful life, is bold and original in his methods of thought, and is animated with the spirit of progress and enterprise. He is essentially a man of action, working hard in the present, and projecting his plans for the future. He is an efficient officer, a hard student, and has a most promising future before him.



**W**ILLIAM CORNELIUS DALRYMPLE was born in Moore county, North Carolina, on the paternal farm, August 3, 1814, where he remained during his first twenty-one years, securing in the meantime a common-school education. Soon after attaining his majority he started for Texas, although but little was known of that country in the interior of North Carolina at that early day. In 1837 he did duty in the ranging service, scouting the waters of the Brazos river. In 1839 he was again engaged in military service, this time stationed at the embryo city of Austin, guarding the wood-choppers who built the first Government cabins in that city. In 1840 he married Miss Elizabeth Wilbarger, in Bastrop county. When he was under General Ed. Burleson at San Antonio, in 1842, to repel the invasion of the Mexican General, Vasquez, he again showed his courage as a warrior. He removed, in the winter of 1846, to San Gabriel, six miles below the present site of Georgetown. When the county of Williamson was organized Mr. Dalrymple was appointed, in 1848, one of the Commissioners to locate a county-seat, and they selected the present one, Georgetown. The same year he was elected its first Assessor and Collector, being re-elected two years later. In the year 1855, he was elected to represent the counties of Williamson and

Burnet in the lower branch of the State Legislature, being re-elected in 1857, serving through the sixth and seventh Legislatures of the State. On the 30th of December, 1859, Mr. Dalrymple was authorized by Governor Houston to recruit a ranging company for the defense of the frontier, which he did, marching the command to Red river, making his headquarters near the head waters of the Little Wichita river. On the 10th of October, 1860, Governor Houston conferred upon Captain Dalrymple the appointment of Aide-Camp, with the rank of Colonel of Cavalry (volunteer), also of Commander in Chief of the Texas militia, and on the 29th day of December, 1860, Colonel Dalrymple received orders from Governor Houston to "repair to the frontier and take command of all the troops now in service, or that may hereafter be called into service, until further orders." As early as February, 1861, Colonel Dalrymple found himself in command of six companies, making his headquarters at the "Old Comanche Agency," on the Clear fork of the Brazos river, near Camp Cooper, a five-company United States military post, which he eventually captured, saving the property of the post to the State rather than see the same pillaged by a threatening band of citizen soldiers that was encamped in the vicinity, for secession was then rampant in the land. Colonel Dalrymple remained on the frontier until the following June. In 1862 he served for a time in Arkansas, as a private soldier in the Confederate army. He represented Williamson and Travis counties in the State constitutional convention of 1866, and also represented, in the State Senate of the Eleventh Legislature, the counties of Williamson, Milam, Bell, Lampasas and Burnet. Previous to the war Colonel Dalrymple followed



farming, and since that time he has been engaged in surveying and locating land on the frontier. On one occasion a party of seventeen men, to which he was attached, was entirely broken up by a large number of Indians at the head of the Concho river, in which engagement Colonel Dalrymple received, at close quarters, a severe spear wound.

The parents of our subject were James and Rosanna (Dawd) Dalrymple, the former born in Scotland in 1763, the latter in North Carolina in 1774. Our subject is the only one of ten children now living, and also survives his beloved wife, who died January 24, 1869, having been a most estimable and noble woman. The four children born to their union are as follows: Jenett, an honored resident of Georgetown, whose unselfish devotion to her father and aunt in their declining years is most beautiful; Sallie, who died unmarried, at the age of twenty-eight years; James, residing on a farm in Uvalde county, Texas, married Jane Patton; and William T., an attorney at Llano, married Alice Houghton.

Mr. Dalrymple is now near the sunset of a long, eventful and useful life. He is palsied and walks with measured tread. During his life in the State he has seen much of the development of Texas, and has aided those of his day in opening the frontier and preparing the way for civilization, and has contributed to the progress which the present generation now enjoys.

The parents of Mrs. Dalrymple were John and Anna (Pugh) Wilbarger, and came from Pike county, Missouri, to Bastrop county, Texas, in 1837. By his first marriage Mr. Wilbarger had eight children, namely: Josiah, who came to Texas in 1827, ten years before the remainder of the family, and was

scalped by Indians not far from the present site of Austin; he survived the outrage, but died about 1845, his widow still resides in Bastrop, and is now Mrs. Chambers; the next child, Margaret, married William Clifton after coming to Texas, but both she and her husband are deceased; Sallie, a resident of Georgetown, came to Texas with her parents in 1837, was married, and is now living at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, her faculties being well preserved; Mathias, father of Mrs. Dr. Walker; Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of W. C. Dalrymple, who is now an honored citizen of Georgetown; John Wesley, deceased, married Lucy Anderson, and his wife now resides near Round Rock: he was the author of a work called *Indian Depredations in Texas*; the next child, Harvey, was a farmer and died in Missouri, never coming to Texas; and the youngest child was Mary. By his second marriage Mr. John Wilbarger had two daughters: Susan, afterward Mrs. Willis King, now deceased, who never came to Texas; and Ann, who became Mrs. Samuel King, marrying a brother of her sister's husband. This is one of the oldest, best known and highly respected pioneer families in this portion of Texas.



**M** M. TEAGUE, County Judge, was born in Hall county, Georgia, April 23, 1836. His parents were Benjamin and Esther (Saddler) Teagne, both natives of South Carolina, in which State they were reared. The father was a farmer and Methodist Episcopal local preacher, serving in the latter capacity for more than a third of a century, dying in 1873, aged seventy-four years. His wife was born in 1798, and died 1874. She was a model woman, a member



of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Grandfather Teague lived in Alabama and owned much property. There were seven boys and five girls in the family of which our subject was a member. One child, Adaline, died in childhood, but all the rest lived to maturity and married, except Emory, the youngest, who died at the age of twenty-three years, from camp fever, in the Virginia army, in the spring of 1862. There are still living the following children: E. A. and A. F., the the former a farmer, running a gin in Washington county, Texas, the latter is clerking for the Sheriff of Washington county, being his office deputy.

Our subject started in life as a farmer until the war, when he enlisted, in 1862, and remained in service until 1865, being in the artillery of the Confederate army made up at Selma, Alabama. He was captured May 12, 1864, at Spottsylvania Court House and was taken first to Point Lookout Mountain, and remained there until July 28, 1864, when he was transferred then to Elmira, New York. His treatment, while a prisoner, was according to the usages of the war. He was released May 29, 1865, and returned home to Alabama, where his father moved from Hall county, Georgia. He first farmed and then taught school until 1867, and was then elected County Tax Assessor for five years, being elected to his office in February, 1867, and then in the reconstruction period in 1869. He studied law in Edwardsville, Alabama, while holding the above named office, was licensed March 24, 1869, and began practice at once at Edwardsville for five years, and then moved to Wedowee, Alabama, remaining ten years in that place practicing law, and came to Texas in January, 1883. At this place he continued farming until 1886, when he was elected, and has been re-elected twice,

to the office of County Judge. He has given excellent satisfaction, and his first majority was 6, his second 294 and his third 688, and he has run against the best men of the county every time. He found the county greatly in debt, and the taxes high, so he reduced the debt and lowered the taxes, and now has money in plenty in the treasury and the public improvements very much better than before.

Our subject was married October 14, 1858, to Miss Rachel Kitchens, daughter of Mrs. Louisa Kitchens, of Wedowee, Alabama. Mrs. Teague was sixteen years of age when married and has borne her husband thirteen children, three of whom died in early childhood, while the other ten are living in Texas, four being married and six living at home. Mr. and Mrs. Teague are devoted members of the Methodist Church. He is a member of the Masonic order, but takes little interest in political affairs, yet votes the Democratic ticket.



**T**HOMAS A. M. HILL, one of the pioneers and leading citizens of Bastrop county, was born in Marion county, Alabama, July 24, 1834, a son of Middleton M. and Julia (Walker) Hill. The father came to Texas in 1835, and purchased the headright of General Edward Bnrleson, but, owing to the then troublesome condition of the State, he returned to Alabama. In 1838 he came again to Texas, bringing his family, and located on his headright of land. He brought two wagons, a hack, three teams, seven field hands, and a number of young negroes. Mr. Hill immediately began erecting log houses, the floors of which were made of split and hewed puncheons, and our subject is still using the



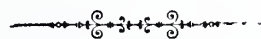


same puncheons for the floors of his cribs. In a few years he had 200 acres of his farm under cultivation. Milling was done on the south side of the Colorado river, at the farm of a Mr. Grassmeyer, on the Fayette county line. About 1841, Mr. Hill erected a cotton gin and mill, which was the third ever built in Bastrop county, and was operated by horse power. Cotton from all parts of the county was brought to this gin, and people also came for many miles to mill. Mr. Hill never participated in a regular Indian campaign, but frequently furnished young men with outfits to go after marauding bands of Indians and Mexicans. He remained on his ranch until his death, in 1849. He left a wife and eight children, viz.: Sarah, the widow of Q. J. Nichols; Robert, deceased; T. A. M., our subject; John W.; Martha, deceased, was the wife of T. J. Brooks; James H.; Mary S., widow of J. D. Williams; and Middleton, deceased. The mother died in 1869.

Thomas A. M. Hill, the subject of this sketch, attended the common schools, and also spent two sessions at Bastrop College. He began work for himself at the age of eighteen years, as manager of Mrs. Oliver's farm, and at the breaking out of the late war was engaged in the same occupation for his uncle, T. B. J. Hill. In 1862 he espoused the cause of the South, and joined Company D, Eighth Texas or Terrill's rangers, in the Army of Tennessee. He took part in the first and second battles of Murfreesborough, Perryville, Chickamauga and numerous other engagements, was paroled at Lexington, and the United States furnished transportation a part of the way home, arriving here June 1, 1865. Mr. Hill remained at the old homestead from 1870 to 1889, and in the latter year came to his present farm of 2,100

acres in the Colorado river valley, which is his portion of the farm. He has 275 acres of the place under a fine state of cultivation, and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

In 1856 he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah E. Seates, a native of Fayette county, Texas, and a daughter of J. B. and Theodocia (Smith) Seates, who were among the pioneer settlers of this State. The father was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence of the State of Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Seates had two children: Sarah E., wife of our subject; and J. R., a resident of Texas. The father was twice married: by the second union had three children. He died in Colorado county, this State. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have had twelve children, ten of whom grew to years of maturity: Middleton; Bell, wife of R. A. Rutherford; Anna and Austin, twins, and the former, now deceased, was the wife of F. Hargrove; Fannie, wife of Pierce Lowery; Sarah T., wife of Dave Robinson; Julia; Robert and Mattie, twins; and the latter is deceased. Mrs. Hill died June 1, 1891, having been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. Socially, our subject affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., J. Nixon Lodge, No. 421, and Bastrop Chapter, No. 95.



**E**DMOND C. BOND, a prosperous young farmer of Rice's Crossing, Williamson county, is a native of Texas, having been born in Johnson county, February 28, 1858. His father, H. Bond, is a native Tennessean, his life beginning in McMinn county, that State, April 4, 1825. His boyhood was passed on a farm. His limited



education was obtained in the primitive log school-house of his native county, attending only as the duties of the farm would permit. He married there, and at the age of thirty concluded to try his fortune in the new West. Locating in Johnson county, Texas, he engaged in stock-raising and farming, and was greatly prospered in his undertakings. He frequently drove his stock to the New Orleans market. When the Confederacy was established and issued calls for defenders of her constitution and institutions, Mr. Bond enlisted and was assigned to Captain Freezell's company, Colonel Sweet's regiment. He was detailed as wagon-master, and served in that capacity eight months, being in the cotton trade and hauling to Shreveport and west Louisiana points. The last year of the war he was a Government overseer, and was so employed at the time of the surrender at Appomattox. On his return home, Mr. Bond located in Gonzales county, where he was variously employed, his chief occupation being trading. From Gonzales county he moved to Colorado county, seven years later to Travis county, and four years after that to Mason county, where he resided until 1890. That year he came to Williamson county. His desire for prospecting was not yet satiated, and in 1892 he sought a home in the Panhandle of Texas, locating in Nolan county, where he is now doing a successful livery business in the thrifty little village of Roscoe. Politically, Mr. Bond has always been a Democrat.

Amon Bond was the father of H. Bond. He was a native of the same county and State, and was born in 1793. He was a very successful farmer, as fine a business man as was to be found in the commonwealth, a politician by instinct, an efficient public servant, and a popular citizen. He was for several

years Deputy Sheriff of his county. In the latter years of his life he took up his residence in Texas, and died in Johnson county in 1869. The Bonds originated in Baltimore, Maryland; at any rate, that is as far back as the subject of this sketch can follow the history. It was in that city that Harry Bond, Amon's father, was born. He followed the trade of blacksmith, and after the Revolution, in which he participated as a patriot soldier, he settled in Tennessee, where his remains are buried.

Amon Bond married Sallie Carter, whose father was John Carter. The children of this union were: Elizabeth, widow of Robert Peters, is a resident of Hood county, Texas; Sallie, deceased; Frances, wife of Austin Yates, lives in Hood county, Texas; H.; Rachel, deceased; Martha, the wife of Jack Wright; Charlotte; Eveline, who became Mrs. Gafford; and Pleasant and Benjamin, both of whom died in Texas. E. C. Bond's mother was Martha, one of the twelve children of Barney and Phoebe Johnson, of Jackson county, Georgia.

H. Bond's children are: Robert, deceased; Olivia N., who married Henry Crozier; Elizabeth, the wife of John Saunders; Savanna, who became Mrs. W. S. Smith; E. C.; Frances, deceased, was the wife of W. T. Caulfield; and Tennessee, deceased, was the wife of James Hamilton.

Country-school advantages were all that our subject had access to in his youth, and as a consequence his education is limited. He was employed three years by John Gambol, driving cattle to Nebraska and Wyoming from points in Texas. For this service he received \$50 a month. In 1881 he married and began farming, locating on his present farm. He owns a part of the J. C. Duvall and M. Ruth tracts, aggregating 600 acres,



400 of it being under cultivation. In 1892 his cotton crop amounted to 186 bales.

Mr. Bond married Laura, daughter of Hezekiah Hamilton, a brother of ex Senator Morgan C. Hamilton and Governor Jack Hamilton, both prominent men in Texas.

Governor Hamilton was born in Madison county, Alabama, January 28, 1815. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in that State in 1841, and five years later came to Texas, and located at LaGrange. He was appointed in 1849 by Governor Bell as Attorney-General of the State, and from that time on made Austin his permanent home. He was Travis county's Representative to the Legislature in 1851-'53. In 1856 he was a Buchanan Elector, and three years later was elected to a seat in Congress, as an independent candidate, General T. N. Waul being the Democratic nominee. He was a strenuous opponent of the policy of secession, and retained his seat in Congress after the other members from the seceded States had returned to their constituencies. He returned to Austin in the latter part of 1861, and was made the Union candidate for the State Senate, and was elected; but Texas had now cast her lot with the Confederacy, and he declined to take the required oath. In 1862, being still opposed to the purposes and progress of the war on the part of the South, Mr. Hamilton left the State, and, making his way through Mexico, repaired to the city of Washington, where he was appointed by the War Department as Brigadier General of the Texas troops in the Union service. In 1865 he was made Provisional Governor of Texas by President Johnson. The following year he was made an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and was a prominent member of the reconstruction Convention of 1868, in which he was the author and chief promoter

of the electoral bill and franchise measures which were engrafted in the new constitution. In 1870 he was the Conservative candidate for Governor, but was defeated by E. J. Davis. He returned then to the seclusion of private life and eschewed any further active participation in the political events of the period, and, falling into ill health, died in Austin in April, 1875.

Hezekiah Hamilton married Asenath Wood. Their children are James K., Amy J. (wife of C. S. Knott), Morgan A., and Laura. Laura was born February 3, 1862.

Mr. and Mrs. Bond have children as follows: Tennessee, born September 13, 1882; Ed. Van, May 14, 1884; Frederick H., October 16, 1886; Amy Relief, August 22, 1889; and Virginia, September 4, 1891.



**W** J. GENTRY, of Baileyville, Milam county, is one of Alabama's native sons, being born in Macon county, that State, January 13, 1834. He was schooled most extensively in the pursuits of the farm, to which his education was almost exclusively limited. He is the son of Archie Gentry, who was born in Greene county, Georgia, and who died when young; therefore our subject is without any record as to his father's age, it being known that he was a farmer and a blacksmith. For his wife he married Feral Callahan.

Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gentry as follows: Asberry, deceased; Sarah Ann, wife of William Graves; James, deceased; Caroline married Wright Daniel; Maria, married J. Staples, but is now deceased; Frances, deceased, became the wife of Wiley Bridgeman; Jack, died in the Confederate army; Payne, deceased; Nathaniel





and W. J., twins, living in Milam county. At eighteen our subject was thrown upon his own resources, having lost his best friend, his mother, at that age. He then employed himself at overseeing, which occupation he followed for five years, saving enough money from his salary to give himself a small financial start, and purchased 100 acres which he improved and lived on until he came to Texas. In 1862, our subject enlisted in Company D, Forty-fifth Regiment, Alabama Infantry, under Captain Black and Colonel Gilgrease, and was attached to the army of the Tennessee. He participated in many hard and bloody engagements, among them being Murfreesboro, Chickamanga and the campaign around Atlanta, Georgia, during which last engagement he received a few flesh wounds, which sent him to the hospital at Anburn, Georgia, for a few months. The campaign above mentioned was perhaps one of the most memorable of the war. The army was so hard-pressed for food that it was a difficult matter to keep it even scantily supplied, and many even suffered from hunger. Grains of corn were picked up from the ground where the horses had left them and eagerly devoured. Those were terrible times from 1861 to 1865.

Within three years after peace was declared Mr. Gentry sold out his Atlanta interests, and settled in Milam county. He is desirably situated at the junction of the Pond and Hog creeks, owning over 100 acres of fine black soil. He is a good farmer, makes bountiful crops, and comes out ahead every year.

At twenty-five years of age Mr. Gentry married Mary, a daughter of Esquire D. W. Gassaway, of Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Gentry have three children: Anna, who married James Simington; Mary L. and Zera. Mr.

Gentry is a Democrat, politically, but has never held nor does he desire an office. The family are Baptists, and no man is more substantial and more respected in Baileyville than Mr. Gentry.



**W**ILLIAM M. PEDIGO, an attorney of Taylor, was born in Miami county, Kansas, in 1866, a son of Lonis J. and Lavenia B. (York) Pedigo, natives of Tennessee. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Renben Pedigo, was one of the early adherents of the sect known as Campbellites or Christians. The maternal grandfather was also a minister of that Church, and both were extensive farmers, but opposed to the holding of slaves. Consequently, Lonis Pedigo was taught from infancy to be opposed to human slavery. At the opening of the late war he joined the United States forces of Tennessee, and served as Sergeant of his company. After the close of the struggle, in 1866, Mr. Pedigo located in Kansas, where he was engaged in farming and stock-raising. In 1876 he came to Bosque county, Texas, and is still engaged in that occupation. Mrs. Pedigo is a member of the Christian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Pedigo had eight children, namely: James A., the eldest in order of birth; Z., a teacher by profession, is a graduate of the Granbury College; Mattie, wife of H. C. Odle, a merchant of Meridian, Texas; William M., our subject; Hattie and Euphemia, teachers in Bosque county; and Eva and Eugene, at home.

William M. Pedigo, the subject of this sketch, was reared to farm life, and at the age of four years entered the common schools of Kansas. After locating in Texas, at the age of seventeen years, he entered the Gran-



bury College, at Granbury, Hood county, where he spent one term. At the age of nineteen years he entered the Sam Houston College, at Huntsville, graduating at that institution in 1886, at the age of twenty years. Previous to that time, in 1876, he taught school two years. After coming to Taylor, Mr. Pedigo was elected to the principalship of the public schools, which position he held two years, and during that time was also engaged in reading law. In 1886 he entered the law office of Lockett & Lockett, at Meridian, where he remained until admitted to the bar, in 1888. Mr. Pedigo was admitted to practice in all the courts of Texas under Judge J. M. Hall, of Cleburne, September 29, 1888. Since 1889 he has followed the practice of his chosen profession in Taylor. In 1891 he was elected to the position of City Attorney. Mr. Pedigo is a member of the K. of P., Alamo Lodge, No. 53.



**S** B. LANE, a successful farmer of Travis county, was born in Walker county, Alabama, June 9, 1849, a son of Rev. A. G. and Maria (Pate) Lane. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject came from Ireland to Virginia in Colonial days, and the grandfather, Simon Lane, moved to Georgia. The father was born in that State in 1801, and moved with his parents to Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, where they both subsequently died. He educated himself at home, was a minister in the Methodist Church for some years, and then took up the profession of the law. Mr. Lane was married in Alabama, after which he moved to Itawamba county, Mississippi, and, while there, was a member of the Legislature two terms. In 1840 he returned to Walker

county, Alabama, where he continued the the practice of law until 1859, and in that year located in Lampasas county, Texas. After locating in this State he took up the ministry exclusively, although, in 1823, he had left the Methodist Episcopal Church to join the Methodist Protestant, and was a member of that sect until his death, which occurred in Lampasas county, June 28, 1888. The mother died in 1852, when our subject was three years old. They had ten children: Nancy J., now Mrs. Harper, of Alabama; Elizabeth S., now Mrs. Young, of Franklin county, Tennessee; George D., of New Mexico; Martha, now Mrs. Taylor, of Alabama; Sarah A., wife of a Mr. Walker, of San Saba county, Texas; Rebecca, deceased; Andrew J., deceased; A. V., of Mills county, Texas; J. P., now Mrs. Brown, of Lampasas county; and S. B., the subject of this sketch. After the mother's death, the father married Emily Clark, a native of Walker county, Alabama, who now resides in San Saba county, Texas. To this union were born eight children, namely: Albert G., of Runnels county, Texas; J. D., of Lampasas county; Lou, now Mrs. Patton, of San Saba county; Robert, also a resident of Runnels county; Melinda, now Mrs. Martin, of Cisco, Eastland county, Texas; Victoria, married, and residing in San Saba county; and Jeanette and Hattie, still unmarried.

S. B. Lane, our subject, remained in Alabama until ten years of age, since which time he has resided in Texas. His young manhood was passed on the frontier, and during the late years of the war he took some part in its protection. After reaching a suitable age he began the stock business in Lampasas county, which he continued several years. In 1878, he removed to San Saba county; in 1880 returned to Lampasas county, and in 1884, he



came to his present location in Travis county, six and three-quarters miles southeast of Austin. Mr. Lane owns 250 acres of black prairie land, 210 acres of which is cultivated.

Mr. Lane was married in San Saba county, in August, 1872, to Morgan Henrietta Lewis, who was born and raised in Texas, a daughter of Rev. S. M. Lewis. The family came to this State from Alabama about the year 1848. Rev. S. M. Lewis, a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, still lives in San Saba county. Our subject and wife have had eight children, namely: Francis A.; Van Alex. Minnie Lee; Preston G.; Myrtie C.; Renben, deceased; Ola and Lena H. Mr. Lane is an active worker in the Democratic party, and the family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



**A**NDREW CHASTAIN MURRAY, a prominent farmer and popular citizen of Burleson county, is a representative of an old family of this section, and connected by blood and marriage with many of the people whose records appear in this volume. His parents, Samuel Jackson Murray and Elizabeth A. (Broadus) Murray, were natives of Virginia, his father having been born in that State in 1814. The parents were married there, and in 1854 removed to Texas, and settled in Burleson county, where they died. The father was a teacher in early life, a man of good intelligence and a finished scholar. He taught but little after coming to Texas, turning his attention, after that date, to farming and stock-raising, which he followed with reasonable success. He served as Tax-Collector of Burleson county for about three years during the war, and had been Colonel of militia, by appointment of

the Governor, while a resident of Virginia, but, with the exception of these two offices, never held any position, civil or military, either in his native State or this one. He was a son of Samuel Jackson Murray, a native of Scotland, who came to America near the close of the last century, or about the beginning of the present, and settled in Virginia. Elizabeth A. Broadus was a daughter of a Virginia-born gentleman, who became a citizen of Burleson county, and was for many years after that date a prominent lawyer of this section and Judge of his judicial district, being a resident of Caldwell, where he died.

Andrew Chastain Murray was born in Caroline county, Virginia, July 8, 1848, and was in his sixth year when his parents moved to Texas and settled in Burleson county. He was reared in this county, and in the schools of the same received what education fell to his lot. Having been brought up on the farm he early turned his attention to farming and stock-raising. In June, 1869, he married Miss A. E. Stamps, then of Burleson county, but a native of Mississippi, and a daughter of William Stamps, who moved from Mississippi to Texas.

Settling on a farm, Mr. Murray gave his attention exclusively to his business pursuits until 1880, at which date he entered politics for the first time as an aspirant for office, becoming a candidate for the office of Assessor of Burleson county. He met with defeat in this, but the same year received the appointment of Deputy Tax-Collector of the county which he held for eight years. He was the appointed Deputy United States Marshal and filled this position acceptably. He was next appointed assistant Sergeant-at-Arms of the House in the Twenty-second Legislature, and, following this, was elected in Nov-





ember, 1892, Floterial Representative for the district composed of the counties of Burleson, Washington and Lee. He has thus been in official life, in one capacity or another, for the last twelve years, and the faithfulness and efficiency with which he has discharged the duties assigned to him is shown by the length of his service, and by the fact that, at each successive election, or appointment, he has been given a higher and more responsible position. He was elected last fall (1892) by a majority of 1,838 over a combined opposition of Populists and Republicans, and in a race where every possible effort was made to defeat the regular Democratic nominees. His career in the Legislatnre was marked by the same devotion to duty that characterized his previous official action, and in all essential particulars gave eminent satisfaction to his constituents. He served on a number of important committees.

Mr. Murray is an enthusiastic Mason, and stands high in the order, being a Knight Templar, Master of his lodge, High Priest of his chapter, and was, for six years, District Deputy Grand Master. He is also Past Commander of Burleson Council, Legion of Honor.

He has a family of six children: Ida V., Samnel Jackson, William W., Nancy A., Eleanor A. and Eurlia V.



**R**EV. W. E. COPELAND, minister and railroad agent at Rockdale, Texas, was born at Dnmfries, Scotland. He received a superb edneation at a college at Dnmfries, coming to America in 1858. Immediately our subject came to Washington, Texas, by way of Galveston, and conducted a sawmill until the breaking out of the

Civil war, when he proved his devotion to his adopted country by enlisting in the defense of his section. In April, 1861, he entered Company H, Fourth Texas Infantry, and soon took part in the battle of Eltham's Landing, and then the battle of Seven Pines, where he was wounded. For twenty-two years he carried that wound in his ankle, until 1884, when an amputation became necessary, since which time our subject has been enjoying good health.

Notwithstanding his wound, our subject did service in the Quartermaster's Department and the War Department at Richmond, as he was a good penman. His service ended in 1864, and for a time he nursed his wound, then rented a sawmill, sawed up cedar brake, and about that time was converted and soon afterward entered the ministry of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and since 1873 has been filling pulpits. At present he is serving the church at Rockdale, having served this people for the past thirteen years. Eleven years ago he moved to his present farm. His work on this place has always been in favor of education and morality. For eleven years he has been Sunday-school superintendent, and through his encouragement and assistance the public schoolhouse was built, he at that time serving as Mayor of the place.

Mr. Copeland has been in the employ of the railroads as agent and operator for some time, holding his present position for the past three and one-half years, in which he gives entire satisfaction. Our subject has lately met with serious loss by fire, whereby his house and fine library were destroyed.

Our subject was married March 4, 1867, to a lady who was a widow of James Clark, and they became the parents of four children: John, who died in 1887, at the age of eighteen years; James, who is ticket clerk for our



subject; Robert, who is on the auditing board of the Palestine Railroad; and Mary, who graduated at the Rockdale public school. Mr. Copeland is a man who possesses the esteem of every resident of the little city of Rockdale.



**N** M. WILCOX, photographer, was born in Tippah county, Mississippi, January 28, 1845. His parents were Nathan M. and Mary A. (Carter) Wilcox, the father a native of Kentucky, and the mother of Illinois. The father was a cabinet-maker, who died in 1867, at the age of sixty-three. He came from Kentucky to Mississippi in 1842, and to Texas in 1852, with his family, settling in Houston, which was then a small town. In 1854 he went from there to Colorado county, settling on the Navidad river, where he erected a gristmill. Fishing was then excellent at that point, water was clear, and prairie chickens were so plentiful that at times they would come and feed with the tame fowls. Mr. Wilcox remained in this vicinity for only a year, living in several places. In 1863 he finally settled in Sullivan, on the Brazos river, where he died. He was a member of the M. E. Church, and his wife is still living. Mrs. Wilcox is seventy-two years old, and resides alternately in Austin and Georgetown, with her children. Her father was John Rohrer, of German descent and a native of Kentucky. Our subject is one of eight children, three having died in infancy. Their names are: William C., a carpenter, residing in Brenham, who married Bell Campbell; N. M., the subject of this sketch; Charles H., residing in Austin, is a commercial man, and his wife was Miss Biele McSwain; Walter W. is a member of the firm of Harold and Wilcox; Laura C. mar-

ried Frank M. Dnnkin, a farmer near Waco.

Our subject came to Texas with his parents and engaged in cabinet-making with his father, with whom he remained eighteen years. He then took up photography at Burnet, where he was thus occupied for three years. At the end of this time he came to Georgetown, where he has been for nearly four years, meeting with marked success in business, and has the best display in Texas, his work comparing favorably in artistic taste with any in the State. He is complimented from all quarters, as his work is first-class.

He was married March 14, 1882, to Miss Minnie G. Snead, of Austin, the daughter of Captain S. G. Snead, and they have four children: Mary F., Lebe, Maggie and Fannie. Our subject is a member of the Knights of Honor and the A. O. U. W., being a Trustee in the latter association. He is a natural artist and a photographer of merit, and is deeply devoted to his profession, in which he takes much delight.



**G** I. DUEY, County Treasurer of Lee county, was born in Missouri February 6, 1833. His parents, David and Mary G. (Harvey) Dney, were natives of Ohio and Virginia, respectively. The former was a farmer and followed that vocation all his life, coming to Missouri at the age of seven. He was reared in the family of VonBlaragrim. Later he became prominent as a faithful worker in the Christian Church, but died in 1859, at the early age of forty-eight. His wife survived him many years, dying in 1870, aged about sixty-six years. Nine children, eight sons and one daughter, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dney, who reached mature years, eight of whom are now living. Our



subject, the oldest in the family, came to Texas in 1853. After a residence of four years he returned to Missouri, but came again in 1869, locating in Lee, then known as Burleson, county. At that time he could ride a whole day without seeing a single house. Game was so plentiful that deer, wild turkeys and bear could be seen from the door. Indians abounded in large numbers and would often come down upon the defenseless settlers, stealing their horses and children. The land was very wild and unbroken and the neighbors were few and far between. The schools, which were mostly subscription, were very limited in number and of meager facilities. It was the desire of the Indians to obtain the white girls as wives for their chiefs, so that it was very dangerous to live in the Lone Star State at that time. Not allowing any of these difficulties to discourage him our subject continued on his farm until 1888, when he was elected to the present position. At the termination of his first term of office he was re-elected without any opposition, and is now a candidate for re-election, without opposition. So perfect has been his manner of conducting the business of his office that not a single criticism has been passed upon his official ability. He rents his farm and resides in Giddings at present.

Mr. Duey was married April 12, 1855, to Miss Nancy Shaw, daughter of John and Elizabeth Shaw, the former of whom died May, 1892, in his eightieth year, but his wife is still living, aged seventy-seven. Mr. Shaw was a zealous member of the Christian Church for many years. He and his wife reared a family of ten children, eight of whom are living. Our subject and wife are the parents of the following children: Mary E., wife of S. B. Carr, has six children and they reside in Nebraska; Maggie, wife of L.

C. Baker, was a member of the Christian Church and died when twenty-two years of age; Louellam, wife of J. C. Childs, resides near Elgin, Texas; David is in the stock business in Wyoming; Ninettie, Adaline, Hattie, Katie and May, the last two in school. Our subject, his wife and all the children save one are members of the Christian Church, in which Mr. Duey has been an Elder for many years. Mr. Duey takes but little interest in politics. He and his interesting family are highly respected wherever they have chanced to live and have made many friends.



**S** K. P. JACKSON, Treasurer of Williamson county, was born in Giles county, Tennessee, September 18, 1840. His parents were Thomas G. and Elizabeth (Caleurt) Jackson, both natives of North Carolina. The father was a farmer, and was quite successful, coming to Texas with his family and settling in this county near Florence. He was the third settler on the head of Salado creek, and came there in 1851. At that time there was but one business house in Georgetown, the country around there being so sparsely settled. Mr. Jackson died May 8, 1855; he was a member of the Christian Church, in which he was an Elder. He was a good, respectable man, who was quite well known for his time in Texas. His wife died in 1885, at the age of seventy-six years. She was a member of the Christian Church and was very active and devoted in all of her church work. There were twelve children born to this union, six of whom are still living, five in Texas and one in Indian Nation.

Our subject started in life on the farm, where he remained until thirty-five years of





age, when he went West. He then clerked in a store and later became proprietor of a general merchandise store in Florence, which continued a little more than a year. He was elected in 1890, to his present position, for which nine men were running, but Mr. Jackson was came out ahead, as he nearly always does. He was nominated by the convention, and was over 3,100 votes ahead. In 1892, he had a majority of 2,340, showing a high degree of appreciation of his merit by his constituency.

He was married January 10, 1865, to Mrs. M. E. (Whittenburg) McGnire, daughter of J. L. and Lavina Whittenburg. She was a native of Alabama, and her parents of Tennessee. They are still living, on a farm near Florence. Our subject and wife have two children, Lucy B., wife of G. C. Adkinson, a druggist of Florence. Their two children are Charles B. and William Terreso. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are members of the Christian and Methodist Episcopal Churches respectively. He is a member of the Knights of Honor, and was an officer while he lived in Florence. He is an esteemed friend, a worthy citizen, an efficient officer, a genial and courteous gentleman.



**J**OHAN M. WHITTON, County Assessor of Williamson county, was born in Campbell county, Tennessee, September 24, 1851, a son of Howard G. and Minerva L. (Keeny) Whitton, who were born, reared and married in Campbell county. The father, a farmer by occupation, was well and favorably known in his neighborhood, and in every way was a worthy man. He went to Pike's Peak in 1860, where he died two months later with mountain fever. Mr. Whitton was

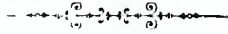
a devout member of the church, and by his many acts of Christian kindness enthroned himself in the hearts of those who knew him. Mrs. Whitton was a member of the same church as her husband, and she also endeared herself most affectionately to the hearts of her associates, as well as to all who knew her blameless life and high Christian character. They were the parents of five children, viz.: John M., our subject; Stokley C., a farmer of Iowa; James C., following the same occupation in Williamson county, Texas; and Edmund W., a successful farmer of Missouri.

John M. Whitton was educated at Edinburg, Tennessee, after which he followed teaching in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Texas. His first school in this State was in Ellis county, which then numbered eleven pupils, but three months afterward it increased to seventy-five, only fifteen of whom resided in Palmer's Station. He was obliged to employ one assistant. Mr. Whitton has taught more than 3,500 pupils, from the ages of four to forty-five years. In 1888 he was elected Tax Assessor of Williamson county, re-elected in 1890, and again in 1892. In his first election he had four opponents in the convention, but received more votes than the four combined, and at the general election he received the highest vote, having had no opposition. At the third election he had 4,031 votes, receiving a majority over his opponent of 2,504 votes. Mr. Whitton is a most efficient county officer, is kind, pleasant and courteous to all, and is possessed of the same genial spirit which characterizes all his associates in county official positions.

In 1879 he was married to Susan C. Hazelwood, a daughter of Joshua and Rebecca Hazelwood, of Montague county, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Whitton have six children: Zula



May, Orvil C., Claud D., Ethel R., Lena Leota and Oma. Mr. Whitton affiliates with the Baptist Church, and his wife with the Christian Church. The former is also a member of the Masonic order, the I. O. O. F. and the W. O. W. Mr. Whitton is a man well fitted for his office, as his work reflects his ability, and as a teacher he had the affection and esteem of all the pupils, and the confidence and good will of the parents, patrons and all concerned. He is in thorough sympathy with the progress of the community on every line of advancement.



**WOODSON PATRICK**, a merchant of Georgetown, was born in Overton county, Tennessee, January 28, 1835, a son of Dr. Hiram and Polly (Coons) Patrick, natives also of Tennessee. The father practiced medicine in Overton and White counties, Tennessee, for many years, and his death occurred in Kentucky while driving stock to that State. He was a soldier in the Mexican war, and received a land warrant for services rendered in that struggle. His uncle, James Patrick, was a private in the Revolutionary war, the family having emigrated from Ireland to Virginia in about the beginning of the Revolutionary period. His younger brother, John Patrick, and the grandfather of our subject, came to America at the age of sixteen years, and his death occurred in 1866, at the age of one hundred and five years. The latter's children, Jack, Cynthia and Hiram, are all now deceased. Cynthia married Tom Farris. Dr. Hiram Patrick died at the age of sixty years, and his wife departed this life in 1876, aged sixty-nine years. They were the parents of twelve children, our subject being the seventh child,

and ten are supposed to be still living, but they reside in many different States. The eldest daughter, Susan Taylor, who died in 1892, at the age of about sixty-nine years, was a resident of Overton county, Tennessee. She was a devout member of the Baptist Church.

Woodson Patrick was reared on a farm, and received his education at Mount Pisgah Institute, Tennessee. He also taught country schools in that State three years. In 1859 he located in Williamson county, Texas, followed his former occupation three years, and in the spring of 1862 enlisted in Company G, Allen's regiment, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, for service in the Confederacy. He took part in Walker's division, and participated in several small battles and many skirmishes in Missouri and Arkansas. After eighteen months of service Mr. Patrick was taken sick, and in the fall of 1863 returned home, where he remained until the close of the struggle. He taught school several years after the war, next followed farming several years, and since 1874 has been engaged in merchandising in Georgetown.

Mr. Patrick was married in Tennessee, in 1856, to Miss Almira Jane Copeland. They had three children: James, a groceryman of Georgetown, married Miss Mollie Burton, and they have one child, Alma; Mary, who died in 1891, aged thirty-one years, was the wife of James Simpson and a member of the Baptist Church; and John, a clerk in his brother's store. The wife and mother died in 1867, at the age of twenty-seven years. In 1868 our subject married Miss Margaret Donnell, a daughter of S. W. Donnell, a native of Tennessee. He died in 1879, at the age of sixty-seven years, having been a long and devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was one of the old and



highly respected pioneer settlers of Williamson county. His wife, who lived for many years near Lebanon, Tennessee, died in 1873, aged sixty-two years, having been also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. and Mrs. Donnell were people of eminent devotion and signal usefulness, and, passing from earth's activities at a good old age, their memory is a precious heritage to the church and a blessing to all who knew them. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick have had two children: Delta, a pupil in the class of the Southwestern University; and Victor, deceased in 1885, at the age of four years. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick are members of the Baptist Church. The former has also filled all the offices in the subordinate lodge Odd Fellows' order. Mr. Patrick has risen steadily in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and deservedly takes rank among the worthy pioneer settlers, whose generous good-will scarcely knows bounds.



**E**LIAS W. TALBOT, deceased, was born in Vermont, July 17, 1820, a son of Thomas and Phoebe (White) Talbot, natives of England, where they were reared and married. The father was a lineal descendant of John Talbot, the first Earl of Shrewsbury, who distinguished himself by valiant deeds in the days of Henry V. and Henry VI., and who died in battle at Chatillon in 1458, aged eighty years. The family came to America in 1807, where William Talbot died, leaving a large family of sons and daughters, and they settled in various parts of New York and Canada. Thomas and Phoebe Talbot, parents of our subject, had six sons: Charles, John, Joseph, Richard, Thomas and Elias. Thomas was elected

Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts, under Charles Sumner, served out the latter's unexpired term, and was elected Governor in 1874 and 1878, in the latter election receiving an overwhelming majority. Previous to this he also served two terms in the Legislature, and was chosen to revise the constitution.

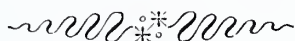
Elias Talbot was educated in Massachusetts, and during his youth was a great reader, close observer and indefatigable student. He worked in mills and factories with his brothers while in Massachusetts, and at the age of fifteen years, on account of his widowed mother's health, went to St. Joseph county, Michigan, where he was employed as collector in the mercantile business of his two brothers, Joseph and John. In 1853 Mr. Talbot came to Georgetown, Texas, and immediately began merchandising in a large two-story building on the corner north of Steele's bank. On account of ill health he closed the store soon after the war, and afterward lived a retired life, giving attention to such business only as could be done out of doors on his ranch. His death occurred December 21, 1876, he having been a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Talbot was married in St. Louis, July 18, 1849, to a daughter of Rev. Isaac S. Ketchum, of that city. They left that city immediately after marriage, on account of the dreadful scourge of cholera which was then prevailing, having been equipped to establish a home for themselves and to work out a noble destiny. Rev. Isaac S. Ketchum was born and reared in Poughkeepsie, New York, was a very devout man, a thorough student, of scholarly attainments, and his spotless life, his fidelity and integrity will be cherished by all who knew him. To know him was to love him for his many sterling qualities of head and heart. He was a min-





ister from boyhood, and his labors were principally in Michigan and New York. Mr. Ketchum was Chaplain in the Federal army during the first part of the war, and his death occurred during that struggle, at the age of sixty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Ketchum were the parents of six children, viz.: Adaline, aged seventy years, married John Talbot, and they reside in Centerville, Michigan; Sarah, deceased, was the wife of Joseph Talbot; Platte, who married a merchant of California; Mrs. Elias Talbot; Lizzie, who died in St. Louis in 1849, at the age of fifteen years; and Theodore, a resident of California. Mrs. Ketchum died at the age of eighty-six years, she having visited in Texas two years before her death. Mr. and Mrs. Talbot had three children: William, a member of the lumber firm of Whittle & Talbot, of Georgetown; Edward K., a merchant of El Paso, Texas; and Ada, wife of James W. Whittle, engaged in business with his brother-in-law, William. Mr. and Mrs. Whittle have four children: George Dilley, Bessie Bell, Jennie Hughes and Hazel Nadine. Mrs. Talbot has been a member of the church from early childhood, is a valuable citizen and a most estimable lady. Mr. Talbot was a member of the Masonic order and the I. O. O. F., was kind and generous in giving to any one in want, and was such a man as any community might be glad to claim for one of its most worthy and esteemed citizens.



**J**AMES A. THOMPSON, a member of the firm of Thompson & Co., was born in Rusk county, Texas, January 2, 1855, a son of J. M. Thompson, who was born in Georgia in 1827. He received a liberal education for that day, and when a child removed

with his parents to the Cherokee Nation, where he was reared to farm life. In 1847 he came with his father to Texas, locating in Rusk county, but afterward returned to Kentucky and attended school. In 1852 Mr. Thompson came again to this State, and, in company with his brother, W. M., engaged in the saw-mill business in Rusk county, having erected the first mill in that county, and possibly the first in the State, and many of the old families of central Texas are still living in houses of which the lumber was sawed by Thompson Brothers. They used the single sash saw, the mill having a capacity of 3,000 feet per day, and the lumber sold for \$20 per thousand at the mill. Mr. Thompson continued in the lumber business until 1882, when he began his present occupation in Trinity county. He is also engaged in farming in Gregg county, where he now resides. During the late war he espoused the cause of the South, and in 1861 joined the Confederate army,—Colonel W. P. Lane's regiment,—and was appointed Captain of his company. Previous to this he had raised a company which was in the Eastern Department. He afterward secured a transfer, returned home and raised the second company. He served in Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas, and took part in all the battles fought against Banks on his raid to Shreveport. He was once severely wounded in the fleshy part of the leg in a skirmish on Red river. After the close of the struggle Mr. Thompson found himself financially ruined, but being a man of recognized business ability, he had no trouble in securing assistance necessary to again start in life.

Mr. Thompson married Miss Lulu McCord, a daughter of W. P. and Lulu (Miller) McCord, of Mississippi. The McCord family are numbered among the early settlers



of Texas, and the father is better known as Colonel McCord. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson had six children, four now living, viz.: J. A., our subject; B. F. and W. P., of Milford, Texas; and Lulu Della, wife of W. R. Crim, of Kilgore, this State. The wife and mother died in 1870. She was a member of the old-school Presbyterian Church. In 1871 Mr. Thompson married Miss Emma Holt, and they had six children: Cherry, Louis, Lagette, Hoxie, Alexander and Anna May. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are members of the old-school Presbyterian Church, and the former also affiliates with the A. F. & A. M.

James A. Thompson, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the common schools of Rusk county. At the age of twenty-three years, in company with his father, he engaged in the dry-goods business at Kilgore, Texas. Eight years later, in 1884, he moved to Kyle, where he embarked in the lumber business with his father, but three years afterward went to Lockhart. In 1891 he came to Taylor and became a member of the firm of Thompson & Co., and they now have one of the largest lumber yards in this section of the State. In addition to their yard at Taylor, where they conduct a business amounting to \$65,000, they also have a yard at Lockhart valued at \$40,000. The firm have a saw and planing-mill at Willard, Trinity county, with a capacity of 90,000 feet daily, and the planing-mill has a capacity of 125,000 feet daily. The firm of Thompson & Co. are also engaged in the real-estate business; have erected many houses on their own property, and have aided materially in the development of Taylor. In October, 1891, Mr. Thompson, in company with other gentlemen of the town, organized an electric-light plant, with a capital stock of \$40,000,

of which our subject is Director and Treasurer. The plant began operation March 1, 1892, and they now have sixty arc lights and 625 incandescent lights. The firm of Thompson & Co. also have stock in the Taylor National Bank.

In 1879 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Alexander, a native of Gregg county, Texas, and a daughter of Rev. T. and Jennie (Hall) Alexander, natives respectively of Tennessee and Alabama. The parents came to Texas in an early day, where the father was one of the pioneer ministers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and also one of the first school teachers. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have had five children: Louis, Alexander, Lucile, Effie (deceased), and one unnamed. Mr. Thompson is a member of the old-school Presbyterian Church, and his wife of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The former is also President of the Y. M. C. A., of Taylor, which was organized in September, 1892, with only seventy members, but it now has a membership of 160. Mr. Thompson was largely instrumental in its organization. He is also a member of the A. F. & A. M., Solomon Lodge, No. 484, the R. A. M., and the K. of P., Alamo Lodge.



**B** F. HUDGINS, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born in Henderson, Rusk county, Texas, October 18, 1849, a son of J. W. and Margaret E. (Warren) Hudgins, the former a native of Georgia, and the latter of Mississippi. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of South Carolina, of English descent, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and afterward located in Georgia. The maternal grandfather was a



brother of Colonel Warren, who was well known throughout Texas. The Warren family are well known in this State and the East. J. W. Hudgins came to Rusk county, Texas in 1844, was there married, and later moved to Arkansas, where he died in 1879. He was a prominent farmer and slave owner, and also followed merchandising before the war, but was financially ruined during that struggle. Mrs. Hudgins died in 1868. They were the parents of eight children, viz.: Mary E., wife of T. C. Anderson, Professor of a school in Arkansas; B. F., our subject, W. C., of Smithville; J. T., also of this city; Susan B., wife of Mr. Wilkinson, of Navarro county; James W., a resident of Birmingham, Alabama; Maggie, widow of J. Cook, a farmer and editor in Arkansas; and Maud, who died when young.

B. F. Hudgins, the subject of this sketch, was reared to farm life, and remained at home until reaching years of maturity. In 1868 he engaged in railroad work at Houston, commencing at the bottom of the business, but was promoted to the position of conductor. In 1875 he embarked in the wood and coal trade in Houston, but two years later came to Bastrop county to take charge of the large plantation of his father-in-law, J. R. Nichols. This farm contained over 2,000 acres, and after Mr. Nichols' death, December 26, 1888, the estate was divided, Mr. Hudgins receiving 1,100 acres, 900 acres cultivated. Mr. Hudgins is now giving attention to the raising of Berkshire hogs and Jersey cattle. In 1880 he opened a general stock of merchandise, but sold the store three years later. He has a public, steam-power gin, where he makes about 800 bales of cotton annually.

At Bastrop, this county, September 18, 1872, Mr. Hudgins was united in marriage with Miss Sally L. Nichols, a daughter of J.

R. and Josephine F. Nichols, natives of Virginia. The parents were married in their native State, and came to Texas in 1850. The father was a natural mechanic and blacksmith, and made a large fortune by hard work. He loaned his money on lands at this place, which he was obliged to buy in, and also owned a large tract adjoining Greenville. Two of his sons now own the latter place. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Nichols was employed as overseer in Virginia for Thomas Jefferson. Her father, T. G. Garth, was a lawyer by profession, a prominent politician, and a large planter and slave owner. His family consisted of ten children, of whom Mrs. Nichols was the eldest, and she and Jesse L. were the only ones to come to Texas. The latter located at Bryan, where he owned two steam gins and a lumber yard. He died in 1889. Mr. Nichols died in 1888, and his widow now finds a good home with her daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Hudgins have had three children,—all of whom died when young. Mr. Hudgins affiliates with the Democratic party, is a member of the A. F. & A. M. & R. A. M., the Knights of Pythias, and is a progressive and enterprising man.



JOHN W. HILL, a member of the mercantile firm of Yeager & Hill, Smithville, was born in Alabama in 1837, a son of M. M. Hill. In 1835 the latter came to this State, where his sister, Mrs. John McGill, was then living. He and his brothers J. B. J. and Wiley Hill, purchased land together and in the same year M. M. Hill returned to Alabama. His brothers remained in this State, and was here during the Revolution of 1836, and participated in the battle of San Jacinto. In 1838 Mr. Hill came



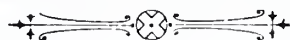


again to Texas, settling on the land he had before purchased, in Bastrop county, twelve miles southeast of Bastrop city, on the Colorado river, where he engaged in farming and stock raising. When he first located in this county General Ed. Burleson lived a mile and a half west of his farm, a family of Hunts, about two miles; and a widow lady and Mr. Craft and Moses Gage, were the only settlers between Mr. Hill's farm and the town of Bastrop. In 1842 the Indians made a raid in this settlement, stole a number of horses from Mr. Burleson and others in the neighborhood, and a party of settlers started in pursuit. They succeeded in capturing most of the stolen stock, and also captured the camp equipment of the Indians. Mr. Hill never participated in any raids after the red skins, although he assisted materially in furnishing outfits for young men to assist in suppressing any outbreak. He remained on his original purchase until death, in 1850.

John W. Hill, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the village of Bastrop, and for two years before the opening of the late war was employed as a clerk. In 1858 he went to Mexico, purchased a drove of horses, which he sold in this State. In 1861 he joined Company D, Terry's Texas Rangers, or the Eighth Texas Cavalry, and was a member of the Army of Tennessee. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Perryville and Murfreesboro. At the last named engagement Mr. Hill had his horse killed under him, was captured, and taken to Camp Douglas December 31, 1862, and exchanged at City Point, Virginia, April 7, 1863. Rejoining his command at McMinnville, Tennessee, he took part in the battles of Chickamauga, Resaca, Kenesaw, New Hope, Atlanta, Bentonville, and also many minor engagements. During the struggle Mr. Hill

had several horses killed under him, many holes shot through his clothing, but was never wounded. He entered the war as a private, but at the close of hostilities was a non-commissioned officer. In the fall of 1866 Mr. Hill engaged in the saw milling industry on Colorado river, which he continued two years. He then purchased a farm on that river, in the neighborhood of where he was raised, remaining there until 1875. In that year he took up his residence in the city of Dallas, but remained there only a short time. From the fall of 1875 to 1888 he was engaged in the mercantile business at Alum creek, and in the latter year came to his present location. The firm of Yeager & Hill has been in existence since 1875, and they now carry a general mercantile stock amounting to about \$15,000, and have an annual trade of from \$40,000 to \$50,000. In addition to his mercantile interests, Mr. Hill also owns a ranch of 2,300 acres, 300 acres of which is cultivated.

In 1868 he was united in marriage with Mariah Yeager, a daughter of John C. and Mariah (Kinkle) Yeager. They had one son, who is now a member of the firm of Yeager & Hill. The wife and mother died in the city of Dallas, December 29, 1875, having been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Mr. Hill affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., J. Nixon Lodge, No. 380.



**M** P. MILLER, an extensive and prosperous farmer of Travis county, is a native of the State of Texas, born in Bastrop county, August 22, 1851. His father, J. T. Miller, was a well-known and highly-respected pioneer of Bastrop county, whither he removed from Arkansas



four years before the birth of his son, M. P. John Miller, grandfather of our subject, was a citizen of Illinois, and there reared his family; he removed in later life to Arkansas, where he followed agriculture the remainder of his days; he died in Arkansas in 1875, at the age of ninety years. His son, J. T. Miller, received only a limited education, and in his youth was trained in all the details of intelligent farming. He followed this occupation until he came to Texas, where he embarked in the livery business at Bastrop; he removed to Austin in 1853, and here established himself in the same business, winning a large and profitable patronage. Investing his surplus means judiciously, he became in time quite independent. In 1876 he sold his livery establishment to his son Monroe, and from that time until his death was employed in the management of his lands and other interests. When he came to Texas his capital comprised two horses and a wagon; at the time of his death an inventory of his resources footed \$185,000.

John Miller married Miss Sims, and four of their seven children survive. J. T. Miller married Miss E. A. Spencer, a daughter of the Rev. William Spencer, of the Baptist Church. There were born of this union nine children: Amanda, wife of M. M. Long; Jefferson, who was killed in Monterey by the Mexicans, in 1883; Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of W. H. Milligan, also deceased; Monroe; M. P., the subject of this biographical sketch; Emma, deceased, was the wife of G. B. Westlake; Wallace; Ella, wife of John Whitis; and Clara, wife of Joe Shumate.

The youth of M. P. Miller was not more eventful than that of the usual "young America." He secured a very good education in the common schools, and at the age of eighteen years engaged in the livery business,

forming a partnership with his father and brother. This relationship continued until 1873, when he became foreman on his father's ranch, continuing in this capacity until the death of the latter and through the administration of the estate. In 1888 he purchased his present farm, a most desirable tract of 1,000 acres, 960 acres being under cultivation. Here Mr. Miller is the center of a small community, giving employment to twenty-two men, and supporting ninety-eight individuals. Five hundred acres are planted to cotton, 300 to corn, and the balance to grass. Mr. Miller has erected a gin at an expenditure of \$6,000, where he takes care of his own product and does ginning for the neighboring public. He is possessed of much more than ordinary business ability, and is one of the leading spirits in all movements tending to advance the interests of the general public.

He was united in marriage October 14, 1873, to Miss Imogene Conlson, a daughter of Harrison Conlson, of Bastrop county, and one of a family of seven: A. B., O. A., Harrison, Jr., Imogene, Bart., E. O., and Kossie, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of one child, John T., born February 25, 1875.



**E** B. BARKER, a resident of Taylor, Williamson county, Texas, is one of the pioneers of the Lone Star State. Here he was born in Bastrop county, January 25, 1835, a son of Jesse Barker, a native of North Carolina, born in 1791. He was reared on the southwestern frontier, and had only limited opportunities for acquiring an education. Jesse Barker removed to Missouri about the time she became one of the Union, and resided there until 1833, when he was caught in the tide of western emigration and



drifted to Texas, then about to become a Republic; he settled in Bastrop county, and for some time was engaged in the frontier service against the Indians. Calvin Barker, grandfather of our subject, was a native of England; he was a soldier in the war of 1812, and fought at New Orleans under General Jackson. During his absence his wife had no communication with him, and as the months stretched out into years she concluded he was dead. Seven years after his departure he returned to find his wife married again and three children added to the family. After a long and friendly consultation it was decided to submit to the wife the question as to which should claim her; the answer was in favor of the second husband, and Mr. Barker departed, seeking another home in a new country. His children are: John, Wilson, Lemon, Jesse, Billie, James, Betsy and Keziah. Jesse Barker married Malinda Weeks, and ten children blessed their union: Calvin; Henry, deceased; Thomas, deceased; Elzina, who married William Daniels, and died in 1855; E. B.; Jane, who died in early life; Finis, deceased; Margaret, deceased, who was the wife of William Rice; Jesse, who died in 1862; and Amanda, wife of William Rowlett. The mother of this family died, and Mr. Barker was married a second time, this union being with Emily Johnson; they have one child, Lemon Barker, a resident of Williamson county.

E. B. Barker was left an orphan at a tender age, and as stated at the beginning of this sketch, had only the advantages of gaining the limited education given the children of pioneers. At the age of twelve years he began to care for himself, and worked for wages and occasionally tilled the soil on the shares. At the age of twenty he began to farm for himself on a small scale, and continued with

varying degrees of success. Shortly after the war he decreased the amount of live-stock on his land, and entered more extensively into agriculture. From 1861 to 1865 he was a heavy loser, having supplied horses and mules to the Confederate government, which were paid for in Confederate money. His military service was of three months' duration, during which time he was a member of Colonel Allen's regiment. He owns a fine farm of 1,300 acres, ten miles south of Taylor, admirably adapted for growing cotton and raising live-stock. Here, during the winter season, he feeds a hundred head of choice cattle for the June market.

Mr. Barker was united in marriage in February, 1857, to Mary, daughter of James Harvey, a pioneer of Burleson county. Mr. Harvey married a daughter of Jack Reed, of the same county. Mr. and Mrs. Barker are the parents of nine children: R. E., J. E., R. L. and J. T., twins, Sallie, wife of B. Darlington, J. L., Emsy, Dudley and Eddie. Mrs. Barker is a consistent member of the Christian Church, and the family enjoy the regard of the entire community.



**J**ACK STEELE, manager of the banking firm of Steele & Sparks, was born in Georgetown, Texas, October 30, 1867, a son of Moses E. and Nep (Ake) Steele, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Arkansas. In an early day the grandfather of our subject located many acres of land in Texas, and after his death, and before the war, Moses came to this State to look after his interests.

Moses E. Steele was born August 31, 1833, in Christian county, Kentucky. His mother, *nee* Miss Edrington, died when he was an in-

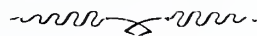




fant, and his father, William H. Steele, committed the care of Moses to his brother, John A. Steele. Moses spent his boyhood days in Kentucky with his uncle, and began his business life in Nashville, Tennessee, afterward returning to Hardin county, Kentucky. In 1855 he came on a business trip to Georgetown, Texas, and a month later returned to Kentucky, but was so pleased with the people, climate and country of Texas that he returned in the fall of the same year. He was employed as clerk by the most prominent merchants, E. V. Talbot, Josiah Taylor and M. M. Rogers. In 1860 he embarked in merchandising, in Georgetown, on his own responsibility, and in October, of the same year, was married. The war soon came on, a financial crisis occurred, and at the close of the struggle Mr. Steele was penniless. He then tried farming, but failed in that enterprise; next embarked in hotel-keeping, and later opened a store in connection with his hotel. He next dropped the hotel and connected banking business with his store, and subsequently sold the store and directed his energies to the banking business. Mr. Steele was a kind and provident father, a devoted and affectionate husband, and his death, which occurred March 17, 1889, at the age of fifty-five years, left a void in the business and social circles of the town which will long be remembered. In early life he displayed that energy and business capacity that in later life enabled him, purely by his own unaided efforts, to have a competency for his declining years. The mother of our subject is a daughter of John J. and Jane (Williams) Ake. The father, a native of Alabama, afterward removed to Arkansas, and in 1850 came to Williamson county. He was first a hotel keeper, next a farmer, was widely and favorably known, and his death occurred in

1864, at the age of fifty-three years. Both he and his wife were members of the Christian Church. The latter died in 1873, also aged fifty-three years. Mrs. Steele, their only child, is still living, an honored resident of Georgetown, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Steele had seven children, namely: Mary, wife of Beaumont Leavel, of this city; Jennie, widow of E. H. Slaton and a resident of Georgetown; Jack, our subject; Bell was the next in order of birth; William H., a clerk and bookkeeper in the bank; Susie, a pupil of the collegiate department of the Southwestern University, in the class of 1892; and Nellie, a member of the same class but now in school at Staunton, Virginia.

Jack Steele, the subject of this sketch, attended the Southwestern University, and after completing his education was employed as bookkeeper and collector in his father's bank. Since his father's death he has had complete control of the bank. Mr. Steele was married in 1889, to Miss May Horton, a daughter of Rev. H. C. Horton, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Seguin, Texas. She is one of a large family of children, and the parents are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Steele have one child, M. E. Mrs. Steele is a member of the Methodist Church. Our subject affiliates with the K. of P., in which he is Master of the Exchequer. He takes no interest in politics.



**H**ARRY GARRETT, one of the leading railroad engineers of Taylor, was born in Ohio, in 1845, a son of George and Susan (Davis) Garrett, the former a native of Ohio, and of Pennsylvania-German descent, and the latter of Scotch parentage. The maternal grandfather of our subject



came direct from Scotland to Ohio, where Mrs. Garrett was probably born. Mr. and Mrs. Garrett were the parents of eight children, viz.: Isabella, wife of W. S. Sheek, of Missouri; Mary, wife of John Jones, of Missouri; Rebecca, now Mrs. Anderson, of Nebraska; Adeline, deceased, was the wife of W. F. Sheek; David, deceased; Henry, our subject; Andrew, of Colorado; and Isaiah, of Texas. The father died in Robinsonville, Henry county, Missouri, in 1860. The war coming on about that time, Mrs. Garrett was left with eight children to care for, and she resided at Leesville, Missouri, until the close of that struggle. The eldest son, David Garrett, was compelled to enter the service, and he joined Company C, Forty-fifth Infantry, United States Army, in the Army of Tennessee. His first engagement was at Jefferson City, where his company was engaged with the remainder of the command in fighting General Price's army. Mr. Garrett was killed between Johnsville and Nashville, Tennessee, in what is known as the battle of Nashville.

Harry Garrett, the subject of this sketch, moved with his father to Marion county, Missouri, in 1858, in 1859 went to Benton county, that State, and one year later located at Robinsonville, Henry county. On account of the death of his father and eldest brother during the war, he was left in charge of his mother and younger brothers and sisters. After it became necessary for people to take sides with one cause or the other, Mr. Garrett cast his lot with the United States forces and joined the Seventh Missouri Cavalry for three months, but was afterward transferred to Company C, Eighth Regiment of thirteen veterans, for the remainder of the war. He participated in all the battles fought against General Price on his raid through to Missouri

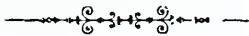
from Jefferson City to Big Blue, and at the latter place Mr. Garrett received a severe flesh wound in the left leg. Previous to this he was wounded in the chest by a bushwhacker. This would probably have proved fatal had not the same ball first penetrated the upper portion of his horse's head. The animal fell on Mr. Garrett, and the same person who shot him would have completed his work had not an officer arrested his hand. Our subject was carried fifty miles on horseback before surgical aid could be found.

After the close of the struggle he returned to Henry county, Missouri, where he learned the trade of distiller of spirits and malt liquors, and followed that occupation two and a half years. He was next employed as manager of a farm three years, and during that time also followed freighting from Sedalia to various places. In the latter part of 1869 Mr. Garrett began staging, following various occupations from 1870 to 1871, in the latter year began farming during the summer and railroading in the winter, and in 1872 came to Texas. After arriving in this State he found employment in the livery stable of L. S. Owens, ex-Governor of Arizona, for one year, after which he began railroad work on the Choctaw division of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad, where he remained eighteen months before receiving an engine. He remained on that division seven years, was then given a run from Denison to Fort Worth, afterward from the latter city to Waco, from 1882 to 1886 ran from Alvarado to this city, and since that year has been on the Bastrop division, from Taylor to Boggy Tank, a run of ninety-eight miles a day. Mr. Garrett has been engaged in railroad work since September 17, 1873, and from that date until January 5, 1893, has never missed a pay day. In 1879 he



was employed as foreman of the company's yards eleven months. When he first came to Taylor it contained only about 500 inhabitants, and three stores, two saloons, one livery stable, and two boarding-houses comprised the business portion of the place. He erected a one-story dwelling, which was burned in 1886, and in the following spring he built a good, two-story frame residence.

January 3, 1870, Mr. Garrett was united in marriage with Miss Julia Thrailkill, a native of Golconda, Illinois, and a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Crumpton) Thrailkill. Our subject and wife have had five children: Cora, wife of James Renand, of Knoxville, Tennessee; Emery, deceased; Harry; Claud and Annie. Socially, Mr. Garrett is a member of the B. of L. E., Gabriel Division, No. 307. He has always taken a active interest in the affairs of the city of Taylor, and in 1892 was elected to the position of School Director, for a term of two years.



**D**EMPSEY C. PACE, of Travis county, Texas, is a son of Demsey C. Pace, Sr., who was born in Tennessee. He afterward moved to Colorado county, Texas, where he died in 1851. He was a stockman by occupation, was an active, energetic business man, was a soldier in the Mexican war, served as Sheriff of Colorado county, and was a Democrat in his political views. His father, Gideon Pace, was born in Tennessee or Mississippi. The Pace family are of Scotch-Irish descent. The mother of our subject, *nee* Elizabeth Dabney, was a native of Kentucky, but afterward moved to Tennessee, where she was married in 18 . They had four children,—Wayne W., who died at Houston, Texas, in the Con-

federate army; Robert J., of Luling, this State; Laura, wife of M. G. Keylich; and Dempsey C., the subject of this sketch.

The latter was born December 3, 1851, and remained with his mother until twenty-one years of age, engaged in farm work and driving cattle, having made several trips to Kansas. At that age he embarked in the hide business, in company with his brother-in-law, M. G. Keylich, which he continued two years. He then resumed agricultural pursuits, but afterward was employed on the police force in the city, and since that time has served as Superintendent of the poor farm. In 1879, Mr. Pace was appointed Deputy Marshal in which capacity he served eight years, and, in 1880, was elected to the office of County Commissioner.

In 1873 he was married to Alice J. Moore, who was born in Tennessee, in 1853, a daughter of Thomas W. and Lucy E. Moore, natives of Tennessee and Virginia, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Pace have five children,—Edgar F., Laura E., Clara L., Cora A. and Dempsey C. Mr. Pace is independent in his political views, but on national questions votes with the Republican party, and is a member of the United Workmen and the I. O. O. F. Mrs. Pace is a member of the Christian Church, of which our subject is a liberal supporter.



**C**HARLES BURNSIDE STODDARD. —Before the landing of the Mayflower, early in the history of the Colonies, three brothers, named Stoddard, and of Scotch ancestry, entered into the fortunes of the New World, in 1619. During the Revolutionary war five brothers of this historic family participated in the struggle





for independence, holding the rank of officers in the army. From this progenitorship came Hon. Henry William and Minerva (Hayden) Stoddard, the former a native of Danbury, Connecticut, and the latter born near Rochester, New York. The father was an architect and builder, and a soldier in the war of 1812. He was born in 1796, and died at the age of eighty-eight years. Mr. Stoddard held many offices of profit and trust, carried the confidence of the people, was well and favorably known and a universally respected citizen. The mother of our subject, born in 1800, also died at the age of eighty-eight years. The parents lived for a time after marriage in Rochester, New York, and finally became established in Portage county, Ohio, in what was known as the Western Reserve. Mr. and Mrs. Stoddard had eleven children, our subject being the tenth child, all of whom grew to years of maturity, and six are still living. Cassius Clay, the ninth in order of birth, was a natural genius with a horse, having being a teacher of Rarry, of Ohio, who had a national reputation as a horse tamer. Cassius Stoddard traveled over the world, and his rare genius was everywhere applauded. He has been known to go to a stable and turn out twenty horses, which he had never before seen, and with that peculiar power he had over the animals, and with only a whip in his hand, would make them come to him, lie down, and do many other feats. He is now thought to be in Anstralia. The eldest sister of the family, Emily, married Charles Burnside, a brother of General Ambrose Burnside, of the late war. The former are both now deceased. The Stoddard family, in its various branches, has a proud record in literature among them being,—H. H. Stoddard, the author; R. H. Stoddard, the poet;

Charles, a literary genius of the Pacific coast, and others who have distinguished the family. The Shermans and Stoddards of Ohio, for many generations have been related and the distinguished General who discharged the youthful soldier (as noted below) is a near kinsman of the family.

C. B. Stoddard was born in Portage county, Ohio, January 10, 1848. At the age of twelve years he moved with his parents to Michigan, and two years later entered the United States army, but was subsequently discharged by General W. T. Sherman, on account of his youth. One year later, however, he again joined the service, and remained at the headquarters of General Thomas, in Government employ. Mr. Stoddard took a regular course in both literature and medicine in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, also attended the University of Pennsylvania, the Dental College of Philadelphia, and the Ohio Dental College at Cincinnati. He began the practice of his profession in 1866, at Ann Arbor, Michigan, but in 1869 removed to Chicago. During the great fire of that city he lost his entire possessions, and in 1873 resumed practice in New York city, where he remained five years, and during that time made money rapidly. Warned by failing health, he went abroad, traveled for a year, and then resumed the practice of his profession in Galveston, Texas. After another two years, sojourn in Europe, he came to Anstin, in 1880, where he has built up a large and lucrative practice. Dr. Stoddard has a reputation not inferior to the ablest and most scientific gentlemen of the entire country engaged in the practice of dentistry. As a discoverer he has won an enviable place in the world of science and art. In 1876 he discovered the application of electricity



as a motive power to dentistry; was also the discoverer of the luminous properties of nitrous oxide gas, the same year, for which he received a high compliment from Henry Norton, one of the most distinguished chemists of America. Recently his genius has been exhibited in the discovery and invention of a small electric illuminator of the mouth, by means of the ordinary battery used in telegraphy. Not the least among the achievements of science, is Dr. Stoddard's painless extraction of teeth, by means of a hypodermic injection into the gums of fluid known only to the discoverer. As a traveler the doctor is untiring and intelligent, having visited almost every part of the world,—Europe, Asia, Africa, the islands of the ocean, as well as his native continent. He usually spends about one-third of his time in this pleasant way.

He was married in 1866, his wife dying in 1869. One child was born to this union but did not survive the mother. Dr. Stoddard became a member of the G. A. R. Post in 1884, and is now Commander of Joseph A. Mower Post, No. 10, Department of Texas. He has been a delegate many times to the National Grand Lodge, when it met in San Francisco, St. Louis, and Columbus, Ohio. In 1892 the Doctor was made a member of the National Council of Administration of the G. A. R., and attended and took part as an officer in the National Encampment at Washington, in the same year. He was in the saddle from nine A. M., to 6 P. M., as an officer and an aid, and even then did not see the end of this grand body of old veterans. This was the largest national encampment in its history, and the largest body of men in one grand review ever known on the continent. They were over nine hours in passing a given

point, were from thirty to eighty deep, keeping step to 300 bands of music on Pennsylvania avenue. This body of grand old veterans have had their annual meetings since their organization in 1866, and as the organization grows in age it increases in interest. The following is taken from the Washington Post, September 22, 1892. "Colonel C. B. Stoddard, Commander of Joseph A. Mower Post, No. 10, Austin, Texas, and a member of the National Council of Administration, G. A. R., is a native of Ohio, and a near relative of General Sherman. He went to Texas soon after the surrender, and has always taken an interest in Grand army circles. He has won many friends to the Lone Star State, and at the capital thereof is recognized as one of the leading and most public-spirited citizens." Mr. Stoddard is also a Thirty-second Degree Mason, of the Ancient Scottish rite, and a member of the K. of P.



**D**R. M. JENNINGS, of Williamson county, was born in Lafayette county, Missouri, November 18, 1828, a son of William and Elizabeth (Hopper) Jennings. The father was born and raised in Fairfield district, South Carolina, afterward removed to Georgia, next to Tennessee, afterward to Missouri, and was there married. The grandfather, John Jennings, was a lad of fourteen years at the opening of the Revolutionary war, and served the entire time in the Continental army. The Jennings family are of Irish descent. On the mother's side the family moved from Indiana to Missouri.

Dr. M. Jennings, the subject of this sketch, was raised to farm life, and remained under the paternal roof until about twenty-one



years of age. In 1849, in company with a brother-in-law, he came to Texas, and spent the following five years in the drug business in Georgetown. He then located where he now resides, where he owns 1,200 acres of land, 250 acres cultivated. The farm is located three miles west of Leander; and Mr. Jennings also owns and conducts a drug store at that place. He never attended a medical school, but, after studying medicine for a time alone, gradually came into an extensive practice, which he continued until a few years ago. He was obliged to abandon the practice on account of failing health.

Dr. Jennings was married in this county, in 1856, to Sarah E. Huddleston, a native of Tennessee, who came to Texas in 1852. To this union have been born six children: William, of Leander, Texas; Edward, deceased; Milton; Sanford and Charlie, of Leander; and Lou E., wife of Emmett C. Perkins, who also resides near Leander. In his political views Mr. Jennings is a Democrat. He affiliates with the Masonic fraternity, and is a believer in the Church of Christ, although he is not a member at the present time.



**J** A. PATTON, Postmaster and merchant, of Oak Hill, Travis county, is a son of J. M. and Sarah (Smithson) Patton. The father a native of Tennessee, and a son of Samuel Patton. The family resided in Alabama and Mississippi, and in 1838 came to Bastrop county, Texas. Samuel Patton was prominently identified with the early political history of the State, having served Bastrop county in the first Legislature that met at Austin, and was a member of several following sessions. He is remembered as a man of sterling virtues, and did his part

nobly in laying the foundation of this great empire. J. M. Patton was reared to manhood in Texas, and was identified with the scouting and ranger service for several years before and after his marriage. That event occurred in Bastrop county, in December, 1845, to Sarah J. Smithson, who was born in Jefferson county, Alabama, Christmas day, 1828. Her parents came to Texas in 1836, locating on Cedar creek, in Bastrop county, where both afterward died. For three years after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Patton lived in Bastrop county, and then removed to Lockhart, Texas, where the former served one term as Sheriff, and remained there five years. They then lived in Comal county until after the close of the late war, spent one year in Llano county, twelve years at Oatmanville, Travis county; in 1882 removed to Blanco and for the past few years have lived with their children. Mr. and Mrs. Patton were the parents of seven sons: Columbus, a farmer, of Dripping Springs, Hays county, Texas; William, at Cedar Valley; J. A., of Oak Hill; John Mac, of the same neighborhood; Anson, who resides near Austin; Tom Green, of Hays county, and Robert Lee, of this county.

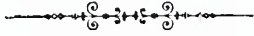
J. A. Patton, the subject of this sketch, was born at Lockhart, Texas, January 12, 1853. In 1870 he located in Travis county, and engaged in farming and stock-raising. Mr. Patton started in life for himself at the bottom round, having no means, except that which he earned, but by industry and good business dealings, is now the owner of 500 acres of good land, 125 acres cultivated, and also has property in Hays county. He embarked in the mercantile business in 1879, and in 1886 was appointed Postmaster of Oak Hill. Our subject occupies a position of influence in his community, is respected





and esteemed by all who know him, is a Democrat in his political views, and is a member of the Christian Church.

Mr. Patton was married in Travis county, January 27, 1875, to Virginia Bishop. They have two children: Andrew and Rosa.



MARGARET CHAMBERS, of Bastrop county, Texas, was born in North Carolina, a daughter of Leaman and Sarah (Forehand) Broker. She came with her parents and husband, Josiah Willbarger, to Texas in 1827, settling first at LaGrange, and then spent one year at Matagorda. In 1831 they came to Bastrop county, locating ten miles west of this city, on what is now known as Willbarger's prairie, and were accompanied by the families of Walters, Northcroft and his father-in-law. Mr. Willbarger erected a block-house on the river bank, where he remained until the stampede in 1835. In company with four families they then went to the Natchez river, returned to this county the same year, but found the Mexicans had carried away everything on the prairie except a few cattle, and these were so wild that they could hardly be collected. The Mexicans made their second forage in the county, and Mr. Willbarger then removed to Washington county, but remained there only a short time. After his return he again found everything gone; even the flooring of his dwelling was used to make boats to transport the corn and other things from the place. A short time afterward the family went to Troy, Lincoln county, Missouri, remaining there one year. They went by way of New Orleans, and just before reaching that city a severe storm occurred, and for fourteen days they were lost

at sea. They returned to Bastrop county, Texas, with a number of immigrants, traveling through Arkansas and the Indian Nation, crossed Red river at Gains' ferry, and the Indians at that time were numerous. Mr. Willbarger participated in a number of raids after Indians, but was never in the State service. In 1832 he went on a business trip to Austin, and while looking at some land, in company with four others, they saw one Indian, gave chase, but he escaped. At Denison, on the same day, they were attacked, and Mr. Willbarger was four times wounded, was scalped, and thought to be dead. He was shot through the cheek and a portion of his neck, his clothing taken from him, and he remained in that condition from 2 p. m. until the evening of the following day, when he rescued by a number of men sent out for the purpose of burying him. He was taken home in a sled, in which he could be carried easier than in a wagon, and it was some time before he entirely recovered from his wound. Mr. Willbarger died on his farm, five miles north of Bastrop, in 1845, leaving a wife and four children. They had seven children, two of whom lived to be grown: Harvey and John. The latter was killed by Indians on the Rio Grande river, while in the ranging service. He joined a company at the age of fourteen years, and his sole object was to avenge his father's death, which occurred before he was twenty years old. Both he and his companion were killed while eating dinner, and the other companion was wounded. Harvey died in 1873, leaving seven children.

Mrs. Willbarger was married in 1846, to Thomas M. Chambers, a native of Kentucky. He came to Texas in 1836, in command of a company for the purpose of joining the fight against the Indians. Colonel Cham-



ber had seventy men, all on white horses, but they arrived too late to take part in the battle of San Jacinto. The Colonel followed farming and merchandising in southern Texas until 1846, when he began agricultural pursuits in Bastrop county. He did not participate in the war of 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Chambers had three daughters: Malinda, wife of James Oliver; Florence, wife of Captain J. H. Hooper, of Austin; and Fannona. The father died in 1855, having been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a prominent Mason of this State. Mrs. Chambers has been a member of the Methodist Church for twenty-eight years.



**W**ILLIAM A. J. JENKINS, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born in Marengo county, Alabama, May 16, 1828, a son of Edward and Sarah (Parrent) Jenkins. The father came to Texas in the fall of 1828, first locating on Barton's creek, but in the following year settled on what is now Hill's prairie, near Cedar creek, where he located a league of land. He remained on that farm until death, and is supposed to have been killed by an Indian. After her husband's death, Mrs. Jenkins took charge of the estate, and at that time her children were small and the settlements were very scattered. In 1836 she went with the others to the rendezvous on Sabine river, where she remained until the return of the settlers. Mrs. Jenkins spent the following twelve months in Washington county, Texas, and on returning to her former home she found everything gone. She remained on the old homestead until her death, which occurred in 1840, leaving four children: Elizabeth, who married John Daugherty, and after his death she became

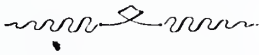
the wife of Elisha Hopper, but both are now deceased; John H., deceased, was a prosperous farmer of this county; William A. J., our subject; Edward W., a resident of Bastrop.

W. A. J. Jenkins received only a limited education, and early in life learned to depend on his own resources. In 1847 he joined Captain Haynath's Company, Colonel Hays' regiment of Texas State troops, and was confined to the frontier section of the State. He was in many battles with the Indians, and at one time they killed thirty Indians, only one escaping. Mr. Jenkins served twelve months, and at the close of the war was mustered out of service in Gillespie county, twelve miles north of Fredricksburg. After returning home he followed farming until the opening of the late war, and was then detailed as teamster in the Quartermaster's Department. Both of his brothers were in the army, and it was necessary for him to serve in a place where he could occasionally return home. After the close of the struggle he resumed farming for the third time on the same league of land located by his father, where he remained nineteen years. Mr. Jenkins then sold the land to his brother, Edward; purchased and remained on the farm in the southeastern portion of the county four years; sold that place and bought land in Caldwell county, ten years later went to Frio county; two years afterward located near his former home in Caldwell county; and October 1, 1889, came to Smithville, Bastrop county. He remained in the city until 1893, and in that year purchased his present place of twenty-five acres in this county.

Mr. Jenkins was married September 6, 1849, to Eveline Faith, a native of Mississippi, who came with her father, E. B. Faith, to Fayette county, Texas, when only ten years



of age. Our subject and wife have had eight children, namely: W. A.; Sarah, deceased, was the wife of J. W. Wellborn; Elizabeth J., wife of Frank Winters; C. M.; Dan; Mary C., wife of W. G. Anderson, of Caldwell county; Endocia, wife of W. J. Monger; and Lee. Mrs. Jenkins is a member of the Christian Church. For many years our subject has been a member of the A. F. & A. M., Hopkinsville Lodge, No. 183.



**S**AMUEL H. McDONALD, one of the successful and leading farmers of Bastrop county, was born in the city of Bastrop, in 1854, a son of Hugh K. and Elizabeth (Gill) McDonald. Samuel H., the fifth of six children, was educated in his native city, and began work for himself at the age of twenty years. In 1874 he embarked in the general mercantile business at Hill Prairie, where he continued fourteen years. He then abandoned mercantile pursuits, and in 1890 returned to his farm in this county, where he is still engaged in agricultural work.

Mr. McDonald was married in 1883, to Miss Ida Holmes, a native of Louisiana, and a daughter of John and Mary Holmes, of Shreveport, that State. Our subject and wife have had five children: Lizzie Bell, Ida Leo, Flora, Jessie, and one deceased. Mrs. McDonald is a member of the Methodist Church South.



**C**HARLES P. VANCE, a pioneer of Taylor, Bastrop county, was born in Grant county, Kentucky, February 21, 1828, a son of Drury Vance, and a grandson of Patrick Vance. The family came to

America at about the time of Cromwell's war in England, and the name was originally spelled De Vanx, a well-known name in early French and Mormon history. The mother of our subject was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, in 1798, a son of John Vance. Her mother was formerly a Miss Ront, and that family were prominent in both Virginia and Kentucky, where they were among the early settlers. John Vance came to this section of country when the Indians were engaged in war. The great-grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Drury Vance, the father of our subject, removed from Kentucky to Tennessee, one year later went to Alabama, afterward spent three years in Arkansas, and in the fall of 1845 came to Houston county, Texas. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, as was also the maternal grandfather of our subject.

Charles P. Vance left home at the age of sixteen years, and was employed as a common laborer for a time. In 1846 he came on horse-back from Arkansas to Texas, spent the first year with his father in Houston county, and in the fall of 1847 came to Bastrop county. He soon joined a company of State rangers, and went to Austin, where he was to be mustered into service, but was disabled three months on account of sickness. After recovering his health, Mr. Vance was engaged in freighting one year for a Mr. Tannahill, hauling from Austin to various places. On one occasion, with a companion, he was surrounded by Indians on a stream called the Blanco, but, as they had the advantage of the red men, and only had two horses, the latter did not run the risk of making an attack. The two men were obliged to go without anything to eat for three days and nights. Mr. Vance was afterward engaged in the same occupation for a Mr. Glasscock. He





next worked on the ranch of Mr. Beard in Burleson county, Texas, four months; was engaged as clerk for A. M. Dodd, where Lexington now stands, and Messrs. Vance & Dodd then opened a store on the present site of Long Point, Washington county. Two years later Mr. Vance sold his interest to his partner, purchased a wagon and sold goods over the sparsely settled districts of this section. At that time a distance of twenty miles frequently intervened between houses. In 1854 he opened a store in Hamblin's Settlement, Milam county, and also purchased the stock of goods of a Mr. McInally, six miles from that place, thus giving Mr. Vance a monopoly of the trade in this section, which, by fair and honorable dealings with his neighbors, he retained during his residence there.

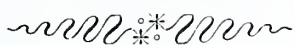
In 1855 Mr. Vance moved a part of his goods to Lexington, Burleson county, where he purchased a ranch, and stocked the same with cattle and horses. He resided and carried on the mercantile business in Lexington until 1857, and in that year moved to his ranch and gave his attention entirely to the stock business. He drove beef cattle to Galveston and New Orleans, and also drove the first herd of cattle to market in this county. During 1857-8-9 a severe drouth occurred in this county, and Mr. Vance was forced to take his cattle and horses to Bee county, where he purchased a ranch ten miles north of Beeville. At one time he was offered \$18,000 for his herd, but did not sell until 1866, when he received \$1,000 for a part of his stock. In 1863 Mr. Vance joined Douglas' company of moving battalion, Texas State troops, was stationed at Burnet and Houston, but was never personally engaged in battle. In 1865 he began merchandising at Lexington, where he opened one of the first stores after the close of hostilities,

and continued that occupation until 1873. During the latter part of his residence in that city, he purchased a stock of goods at Cirenitville, of which he placed his step-son, J. A. Simons, in charge. In 1873 our subject began business in Lampasas, in company with a Mr. Thomas. They lost their entire stock of goods by the flood of that year. Having a stock of groceries, which had not reached Lampasas at the time of the flood, Mr. Vance took the same to Rockdale, opened the first store in the place, and while there, was also engaged in buying cotton. In the spring of 1874 he returned to Lampasas, where his family had resided, and in the following spring moved his goods from Circuitville to Taylor, this county. Messrs. Vance & Co. and Wiley & Potter opened the first dry goods stores in the city, although there were two or three saloons and one boarding-house here at that time. In 1886 Mr. Vance retired from the firm, since which time he has been engaged in real-estate business, and in buying and feeding stock. He has two farms in Burleson county, a handsome residence in this city, and other property. In 1865 he was elected County Commissioner of Burleson county, and has also held other minor offices.

In 1854 Mr. Vance was united in marriage with Mrs. A. D. L. Simons, *nee* Hewlett. Her family came originally from Scotland, and her father, Lemuel Hewlett, was a soldier in the war of 1812 from South Carolina. He was wounded in the battle of New Orleans, and his death occurred in Kentucky, at the age of eighty-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Vance had four children: Charles R., deceased, at the age of twelve years; John T., engaged in the hardware business in Lexington, Kentucky; Sallie R., wife of J. L. McCartney, of Colorado; and Robert S., de-



ceased, was formerly cashier of the Wise County National Bank, at Decatur. Mrs. Vance died in 1891, at the age of fifty-nine years. She was a member of the Christian Church. December 1, 1892, Mr. Vance married Mrs. Fannie G. Conch, *nee* Gibbons, a native of Kentucky. She is also a member of the Christian Church.



CALVIN WEIR, a farmer of Williamson county, was born in Blount county, Tennessee, December 19, 1826, a son of Hugh and Margaret (Rankin) Weir, natives also east Tennessee. The father was a son of Jonathan Wier, a native of Virginia, of Scotch-Irish descent, and a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He located in east Tennessee in a very early day, and was often obliged to leave his home for safety from the Indians. The mother of the subject was a daughter of William Rankin, a native of Virginia, and a Revolutionary soldier. He also settled in east Tennessee in an early day, where he followed farming. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Weir had ten children, namely: David M., deceased in Illinois, in 1861; Sarah M., married Robert McReynolds, and both died in Illinois; Jonathan N., who died in the same State; William R., came to Texas in 1837, and died about 1882; Samuel B., who came to Texas first in 1837, afterward returned to Illinois, and in 1855 came again to this State, where he died in 1879; John A., who came to this State in 1858, now resides in Mills county; James M., deceased in Illinois; Mary A., deceased in Tennessee; Calvin, our subject; and Margaret J., who died at Chattanooga, Tennessee. The father departed this life in 1830, and the mother in September, 1845.

Calvin Weir lost his father at the age of four years, after which he went with his widowed mother to Illinois, settling in Fayette county, where the latter died twelve months afterward. The children then returned to their old home in Tennessee, but three years later Calvin went to Chattanooga, where he followed agricultural pursuits until 1856. In that year he came to Williamson county, Texas, purchased 100 acres of his present farm, then raw land, and he has since added to this place until he now owns 737 acres, 225 acres under a fine state of cultivation. Mr. Weir has given some attention to stock, has a beautiful residence and two tenement houses. In March, 1862, our subject entered the Confederate service, in Company A, Morgan's Battalion, in the Trans-Mississippi Department, and remained in Arkansas. The command was principally engaged in garrison duty, took part in Marmaduke's raid, but on account of sickness Mr. Weir participated in only a few skirmishes. He returned home in the latter part of 1863, received an honorable discharge on account of spinal affection, and as soon as able resumed farming and stock raising.

Mr. Weir was married at Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1851, to Miss Murtilla N. McCalup, a daughter of Samuel McCalup, who died in Tennessee. Mrs. Weir died at the birth of her third child, and the two oldest children died soon after coming to Texas. The youngest child died in 1857, thus leaving Mr. Weir without wife or child. In April, 1859, he married Miss Valinda E. Camp, who was born in Alabama in 1838, a daughter of Abisha Camp, who died in that State. After the father's death, the mother married a Dr. Adams, and they came to Texas in 1849, locating in Travis county. Mr. and Mrs. Weir have had ten children,



viz.: Sallie D., wife of Robert H. Darsette, a native of Texas, and a farmer of Williamson county; Martha R., wife of John H. Collier, also a farmer of Williamson county; Charley M., engaged in cattle business in Cottle county, Texas; Lucy A., at home; Thomas C., engaged in teaching school; Fanny L., wife of John Nowlan, of Williamson county; Horace M., at home; James N., attending school at Tehuacana; and Mary L. and William N., at home. Mr. Weir has never used tobacco or stimulants of any kind, and never used an oath or danced, as is true of his children. He takes an active interest in the Democratic party, and socially, in a member of the Masonic order. Religiously, he is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and his wife is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**CLIFFORD J. HUBBARD**, a farmer and stock raiser of Bastrop county, was born on the farm where he still resides, September 17, 1855, a son of Augustus M. and Martha E. (Jones) Hubbard, natives of Georgia. The parents came to Texas in 1849, locating on the farm Clifford now owns, then a portion of the E. W. Barton league, and which was but slightly improved. Mr. Hubbard brought negroes with him, and engaged in farming and stock raising. At the opening of the late war he espoused the cause of the South, joining the Confederate army, was in the commissary department, and was stationed principally at Sabine Pass. After the close of hostilities he returned home, and was engaged in farming and stock raising until his death, in 1881, at the age of fifty-six years. His wife survived until July 23, 1884, dying at the age of fifty-one years.

They were members of the Missionary Baptist Church. At their death Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard left a family of six children,—Anna, deceased, was the wife of A. M. Moore; Emma, wife of B. F. Womble, of Waco; R. O., a resident of Bastrop county; C. J., our subject; Lizzie, widow of E. T. Robinson, and a resident of Georgetown, Texas; and Martha deceased.

Clifford J. Hubbard, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the subscription schools of his native county. At the age of twenty-one years he began work on the farm, and at the age of twenty-seven years took charge of his father's old homestead, which consists of 453 acres, 320 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. The place contains a good residence, large barns, and other farm conveniences. Mr. Hubbard makes a specialty of farming, devoting his time principally to the raising of corn and cotton, receiving from sixty to seventy-five bales of the latter product each year.

In 1883 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Aggie J. Tuttle, a native of Fayette county, Texas, and a daughter of George W. and Mary E. (Karnes) Tuttle, the latter a native of Texas. The father came to this State from New York in 1838, settling on the Colorado river in Fayette county, where he was engaged in farming for many years. He was then employed in mercantile pursuits until the opening of the late war, when he joined the Confederate army, and served in the Army of the Tennessee. After the close of hostilities Mr. Hubbard resumed merchandising, which he continued until within a few years ago. He still resides in Fayette county. His wife died in 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle had nine children that lived to years of maturity, viz.: Helen, deceased, was





the wife of Dr. D. Clanton; Noah, deceased; Charles; George, deceased; Frank; Snsan, deceased, was the wife of S. A. Shumway, of Waco; Aggie, wife of our subject; Rufus; and Alivia, wife of Captain George Willrich, of La Grange, Texas. Mrs. Tuttle was a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have four children,—Lizzie R., Mildred M., Enstis C. and Clarence A. Mrs. Hubbard is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**ISAAC H. SPARKS**, a well-known citizen of Burleson county, Texas, is ranked with the early settlers of this State. He came to Texas in 1849, landing in Galveston, where he had a brother, William N. Sparks, who at that time was Sheriff of his county, and under him the subject of our sketch served as deputy for over a year. After that he rented land in Milam county and cultivated one crop. Next we find him at Fort Sullivan, where for ten years he was variously employed, his enterprise and energy at once shoving him to the front. He made money rapidly. For some time he worked at the cabinet making and carpenter trade, and for four years he served as Deputy Sheriff under Jefferson Rogers. Then he engaged in the grocery business, continuing the same until the opening of the late war. Coming to Burleson county about the time the war broke out, he was appointed by the County Commissioners to attend to the wants of soldiers' families, and was thus occupied up to 1863. Then he engaged in the army service, freighting cotton, and was making a trip at the time of the surrender, being then at San Antonio, and from there returning home. He had sold his store and property at the opening of the

war, taking Confederate money in payment for the same, at one time having about \$30,000 in such money; this, of course, was a total loss. About all he had left when the war closed was a few cattle and horses; no, not all, for he still retained his pluck and energy, and with this as capital he went to work to rebuild his wasted fortunes. Mr. Sparks has been a cripple ever since he was five years old, at that time having his right foot injured while playing teeter with another boy. His physical disability, however, has not prevented him from making a success in life.

For four or five years Mr. Sparks bought and sold cattle and also traded in land, buying and selling many tracts. About 1870 he finally settled down to farming and stock raising. Now he owns a large farm on the Brazos bottoms and has about 500 acres where he lives. His homestead joins the old town of Frameville, having selected this place for the purpose of having his family near good schools. He has 100 acres under cultivation. In 1892 he bought from his son, Dr. Sparks, the grocery store at Frameville, and has been running the business ever since for himself, having conducted it for his son some time previous to that date.

Mr. Sparks was born in Carroll county, Tennessee, September 27, 1827. He was reared on a farm and his education has been that gained chiefly in the school of experience.—Before he reached his majority he began doing for himself, first being employed by a slave trader and afterward by a dealer in horses and mules. This was before he came to Texas, as above stated. His parents were Isaac and Willie (Knowling) Sparks. His father was born in the fort at Athens, Georgia, where Absalom Sparks, the grandfather of our subject, was living with his family. Absalom Sparks was killed in one



of the Indian wars. The Sparks family originated in Ireland. Isaac Sparks was the eleventh born in his father's family. His death occurred at the old homestead in Tennessee. He was one of the first settlers of the neighborhood in which he lived and died.

The subject of our sketch was married in 1860 to Miss Porter. Their children, five in number, are as follows: Beatriee, wife of Sidney Dunn, died in 1889; Jesse P., a practicing physician of Burleson county; and James V., Benjamin I. and Willie, at home.

Mr. Sparks is an ardent Democrat and has always taken an active part in political matters, but has never sought official position. He has been Election Judge ever since the reconstruction. Fraternally, he is a Royal Arch Mason. Mrs. Sparks is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church.



**C**APTAIN S. K. BROWN, Superintendent of the County Poor Farm of Williamson county, was born in Lincoln county, Maine, October 2, 1835, a son of Emerson and Rebecca (Morton) Brown, natives also of that State. The father followed piloting during the most of his life, on both the coast and sea. His death occurred in 1869, and his wife now resides in Philadelphia, aged eighty-two years. They reared the following children: Rebecca, S. K., Lucretia, Reuben, Sarah, Emerson, Elizabeth and Warren.

Captain S. K. Brown, the only one of the family to come to Texas, received a limited education, having engaged as a sailor when young. His voyages were to the West Indies, British Honduras and all intermediate ports. In 1854 he came to Indianola, Texas, where he served as a pilot on the Indianola bar a

number of years, and afterward followed steamboating on Trinity and Buffalo rivers. In 1862 Mr. Brown enlisted for service in the Confederate army, but was soon transferred to the Navy department, and was in command of a gunboat until the close of the struggle. He was then at Matagorda, and, on hearing the news of the surrender, the entire crew left the boat, the John F. Carr, to the Yankees. He remained in Matagorda bay five years, and then had charge of the Morgan Company's steamers as pilot on Pass Cavallo bar until 1876, when he came to Williamson county. Mr. Brown then purchased a farm, following agricultural pursuits eight years, when, in 1884, he came to Georgetown. January 1, 1892, he was employed by the County Commissioners to take charge of the Poor Farm, which consists of 200 acres, 100 acres under cultivation, and the remainder in pasture. The farm has never paid expenses until this year.

Mr. Brown was married at Port Lavaca, Texas, in 1866, to Miss Mary Threlkeld, who was born in Lavaca county, Texas, October 7, 1843, a daughter of T. R. and Janet (Thompson) Threlkeld, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Tennessee. The parents, who were reared and married in Indiana, came to Texas in 1839, locating in Jackson county, but afterward moved to Calhoun county. The father followed merchandising in Indiana, but after locating in this State engaged in farming and stock-raising for a time, and then resumed mereantile pursuits. Mr. and Mrs. Threlkeld had seven children, viz.: Angeline, wife of D. B. Keiper, of Dallas, Texas; Irwin, who was killed at the battle of Franklin, Tennessee; Mary, now Mrs. Brown; Otto L. who died at Eagle Pass, in 1887, while serving as Collector of Customs under Cleveland;



Annie, wife of T. F. Crane, a contractor of San Antonio; William T., cashier and manager of the Thompson estate and mill at Edinburg, Indiana, and Travis R., also of Edinburg, Indiana. Mr. Threlkeld died in 1859, and his wife died in Dallas, in 1876, while on her way home from a visit in Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have had four children, viz.: Irwin, born February 2, 1867, is a travelling salesman; Helen O., born October 7, 1870, is at home; Morton E., born November 1., 1880; and one deceased in infancy. Socially, Mr. Brown is a member of the Masonic order and the Woodmen of the World, and religiously, both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In his political views he is a staunch Democrat.



**G**EORGE W. WOOD, a farmer, stock-raiser and ginner of Bastrop county, was born in Travis county, Texas, February 12, 1855, a son of James and Martha (Glover) Wood, natives of Alabama. The parents were married in this State in 1849, and located in Travis county, where the father still resides. During the late war he was detailed by the Government as freighter and beef-driver. Since locating in Travis county he has occupied two different farms, and still owns a fine place near Webberville. Mr. and Mrs. Wood were the parents of eight children, viz.: George W., our subject; James, a farmer of Travis county; William, also of that county; Molly E., wife of J. S. Roe; Henry, a farmer of Travis county; Lee, a farmer of Bastrop county; Mattie, wife of Edd Burleson, of Travis county; and Walter, at home.

George W. Wood, the subject of this sketch, remained at home until twenty-five years of age, and was engaged in farming at the old homestead until 1887. In that year he bought his present farm of 600 acres in the Colorado river valley, 250 acres of which is cultivated. Mr. Wood is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He is also half owner in two steam-power gins, which are furnished with all modern improvements.

In 1877 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Molly P. Stewart, who was born in Missouri in 1862. Her father who held the rank of Colonel, was killed in the Confederate army. His widow afterward married a Mr. Martin, and with her family, came to Texas in 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart had five children: T. W., deceased; V. A., a farmer of Bastrop county; Robert, deceased; Bettie, wife of W. P. Burns, Justice of the Peace of Elgin, Bastrop county; and Molly, wife of our subject. By her second marriage Mrs. Stewart had one child, Fannie, wife of Arthur Fanville. Mr. and Mrs. Wood have had six children: Bulah E., Ernest M., Jessie P., Floyd E., Vera M. and Cecil. Our subject takes an active interest in everything for the advancement of his community, is identified with the Democratic party, and is a member of the Knights of Honor. Both he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church.



**W**ILLIAM G. MILLER, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born in Tennessee, July 30, 1843, a son of William G. and Elizabeth C. (Sanders) Miller, the former a native of Alabama and the latter of Tennessee. The father was a son of Thomas Miller, a native of Kentucky. The latter's





father came from Ireland to Kentucky in an early day. The grandmother of our subject was a Miss Woods. William G. Miller moved from Alabama to Florida, and afterward brought his family and slaves to Texas. He was a member of the Legislature of both Alabama and Texas, and was a member of the convention that carried this State into secession. Mr. Miller was engaged as a surveyor in this county many years, was a leader in his community, a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, and was a useful man in his county. In 1862 he enlisted in the Confederate army, served in southeastern Texas and in the frontier department, and declined the commission of Captain, preferring to serve as a private. His death occurred October 13, 1888, at the age of sixty-seven years and nine months. He was a consistent member of the Baptist Church through life. Mr. and Mrs. Miller had two children: Woods S., a farmer of Mills county, and William G., our subject. The wife and mother died in Tennessee, in 1841, and the father was again married. By the last union he also had two children: Garland B., a merchant of this locality, and Mary M., at home.

William G. Miller, the subject of this sketch, came with his parents to Texas in 1853, at the age of five years, locating in Bastrop county. Near the close of the war, at the age of fifteen years, he entered the Confederate army, and was consigned to frontier service. He took part in the battle of Palo Alto, after which he resumed farming on his father's place. After the latter's death he conducted the farm for the family, but since 1891 he has resided on and assisted in the management of the Moore homestead, which consists of 220 acres in cultivation. In 1891, in company with Mr. Goodman, Mr. Miller embarked in general merchandising, which

he continued three years, and since that time has given his attention entirely to farming interests. He owns 120 acres of his father's estate, which consists of fine valley land.

Mr. Miller was married in September, 1889, to Miss Jennie C. Moore, who was born in the same house where she still lives, a daughter of Levi Moore. The father came to Bastrop county, Texas, in 1851, where he spent the remainder of his life. Mr. Miller is independent in his political views, and never aspires to public office.



**H**ENDERSON UPCHURCH, deceased, was born in Chatham county, North Carolina, December 5, 1812, a son of of Rufus and Mary (Barbee) Upchurch. Henderson spent his boyhood days under the parental roof, and at the age of sixteen years went to Georgia, where he remained several years. He was then resident of Jackson, Mississippi, until the spring of 1839, was then engaged in farming in Bastrop county, Texas, until 1854, and in the spring of that year located on his present farm in Williamson county. Mr. Upchurch first purchased 500 acres of wild land, which he subsequently cultivated, and the original purchase is still owned by his family. During the Mexican war he served as a member of Smith's battalion, was in service about fourteen months, and afterward drew a pension. He was a member of the home guards during the late war. Mr. Upchurch was a Democrat in political matters, and socially, a member of the Masonic fraternity. The following is taken from the Georgetown Sun:

"Mr. Upchurch died of paralysis, October 17, 1892, at his home on the South Gabriel. He was an honest, upright citizen, a good



neighbor, and a kind husband and father. He was the only survivor, except Rev. A. J. Adkinson, of Austin, of the party which helped to bury the Webster family, killed by the Indians on Brushy creek, in an early day. He was resigned to the Master's will and willing to go." •

December 27, 1849, in Bastrop county, Texas, Mr. Upchurch was united in marriage with Mary E. Payton, who was born in Jackson county, Alabama, May 2, 1828, a daughter of Wesley and Phoebe (Hancock) Payton. The father died in Alabama, and in 1848, the remainder of the family came to Texas. The mother died in Bastrop county. Mr. and Mrs. Upchurch had eight children, namely: Martha, wife of Albert Waggoner, of Travis county, this State; John, of Williamson county; Mary, wife of William Highland, also of this county; W. G., a resident of Williamson county; Phoebe, deceased, was the wife of A. W. Hall; Eliza, who died at the age of eight years; Sarah, at home; and Cora, wife of J. D. McGill, of Williamson county.

John Upchurch, the eldest son, was born on the home place in this county; December 23, 1886, he was united in marriage with Lizzie Wiley, and they have four children: Ruby, Bertha, Zora and Ola. Mr. Upchurch lives with his mother, and is her support in her declining years.



**D**R. H. T. DAY, a physician and surgeon of Liberty Hill, is a Georgian by birth, and has been a resident of Texas since 1877. He is a son of Samuel and Charity (Riggs) Day. The father was born in Tennessee, but raised in Alabama, and after marriage located on a farm in Randolph

county, Georgia. He was a farmer by occupation, a Democrat in his political views, and a Missionary Baptist in faith, in which denomination he always took an active part. Mr. Day died in Randolph county, Georgia, in 1860, and his wife departed this life in 1868. They were the parents of eight children viz.: Robert M., a farmer of Limestone county, Texas; John W. was Captain of a Georgia company during the late war, was captured and died of pneumonia while a prisoner at Johnson's island; Allen R., engaged in the milling business in San Jacinto county, Texas; Mary A., now Mrs. Godfrey Ellisor, also of that county; Susan E., deceased; Martha J., now Mrs. James M. Bell, of Limestone county; Eliza F., wife of John T. Powell, of San Jacinto county; and Henry T., the subject of this sketch.

Dr. H. T. Day was born in Randolph county, Georgia, January 25, 1846. His education was interrupted by the breaking out of the Civil war, and in 1863 he gave himself to the cause of home and native land, enlisting as a private in Company D, Twenty-second Georgia Artillery, and served until the surrender, principally at Savannah, also in the last Carolina campaign. For four years after the close of the struggle Mr. Day was engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1869 he began the study of medicine in Calhoun county, under Dr. Monroe; attended lectures at the Savannah Medical College during the years of 1871-2, the vacation intervals having been passed in the hospitals of Savannah, and graduated in the spring of the latter year. The Doctor practiced for a time in Early county, Georgia, next in Bluffton, Clay county, that State, and for five years after coming to Texas followed his profession in the vicinity of Tarkington's prairie, Liberty county. He then came to Liberty Hill,



where he has established for himself an enviable reputation, and has a large and growing practice. He also owns a fine stock of drugs, is interested in a public gin, and has 300 acres of good farming land, 100 acres cultivated, and located six miles from this city. Dr. Day favors the principles of Democracy in politics, is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Missionary Baptist Church.

In April, 1879, in Liberty county, Texas, the Doctor was united in marriage with Mary L. Cole. They have five children: Travis E., Annie C., Douglas, David Stafford and Goldie.



**J** P. BURNS.—With an ambition to succeed backed by an energy not subject to paralysis by any unfortunate turn of circumstances, is in a nutshell the make-up of J. P. Burns of Rice's Crossing, Williamson county, Texas, a popular and prosperous stockman and farmer.

Mr. Burns was born in this county, February 18, 1859. His father, B. E. Burns, came to Texas from Cooper county, Missouri, in 1850, and made his first permanent stop in Williamson county. He engaged in farming, an occupation in which he was schooled from childhood. He was a loyal Southern soldier, and died of measles at Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1863. He had become convalescent and started home, when he suffered a relapse with the above result. Mr. Burns was born in Missouri in 1818. He married the widow of Mr. Kirkendall, and daughter of Mr. Peveler and *nee* Sallie McCart. Mr. and Mrs. Peveler had a family as follows: William, who was killed by the Indians in Young county, Texas; James; John; Frances;

Lewis; Greenup; Lucinda, who married Judge Terrell; Mary, who married a Mr. Houston, of Grayson county, Texas; Martha, the wife of Colonel Barry, of Bosque county, Texas. By her first marriage Mrs. Burns is the mother of Wyatt Kirkendall; William Greenup; Sarah, who married a Mr. Lemons; and Louisa, deceased. By her second marriage she had Maggie, deceased; Mattie, who married James Planton; John P.; and Baxter Ewing. Mrs. Burns is still living and in good health.

The subject of our sketch was only fairly armed with an education when young. He spent much of his time caring for his mother's stock, and when he could be spared from home was employed for wages, getting \$15 per month. In 1878 he settled down, and with his earnings invested in a drove of cattle, which he ranged in Williamson county. In 1880 he sold the drove and its increase for \$3,000. At once he reinvested \$2,500. He held his second purchase until 1885, when he sold at Caldwell, Kansas, for \$8,000. He ranged them in the territory, as he also did a bunch of horses on which he failed by \$1,000 to realize his outlay. With the proceeds of his last sale of cattle Mr. Burns bought his fine 640 acre farm. Brushy creek passes through the tract north of its center and forms a large bend near the east line. At the bend the north bank of the creek is probably twenty feet high, making a fine natural break, which together with the heavy timber covering the hundreds of acres south of the stream, forms an admirable shelter for the 200 head of bees which Mr. Burns is now feeding. The soil of the entire tract is waxy and possesses all the good qualities ever attributed to that soil; 380 acres are under plow, and, in 1892, 170 bales of cotton were grown on the farm. In 1886 Mr. Burns lost by storm sev-





eral of his tenant houses, causing him to make considerable outlay for their repairs. He is very fond of good horses and keeps a surplus of them of his own raising. Some of these horses are bringing quite handsome prices.

October 17, 1877, at not quite nineteen years of age, Mr. Burns married Malinda, daughter of Calvin Barker, brother of Eli Barker. Calvin Barker married Nancy Reed, they being among the early settlers of Burleson county. Besides Mrs. Burns the Barker children are: Jane, who married Richard Lowden; Lemon and Nathan all living. Mr. and Mrs. Burns are the parents of the following named children: Charles, aged thirteen, is attending school in Austin, Texas; Elmer, who died in 1882, aged eighteen months; Ephe-gine, born in 1883, died in 1885; Herbert and John.



**W** A. PONKEY, a farmer of Lee county, is the son of James and Mary W. (Agey) Ponkey, of German descent. The Ponkey family located in Lynchburg, county seat of Campbell county, Virginia, in Colonial times. The father of our subject was born and raised at that place, was married there during the latter part of 1820, and afterward, with a family of six children, moved to Ohio, where he lived fifteen years in Gallia county. In about 1850 he came to what was then Burleson county, Texas, now Lee county, locating in the neighborhood of where our subject now resides, where he passed the remainder of his days. Mr. Ponkey was a physician by profession, and practiced medicine in Virginia and Ohio for thirty years, but did not resume that calling in this State. He was an active worker

in political matters, voted with the Democratic party, often made speeches during campaigns, and at one time was a candidate for the Legislature in Ohio, but was defeated. He was an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Ponkey had the following children: James A., who resides near the Potomac river, in Virginia; Susan and Mary, deceased; W. A., our subject; Francis, whose residence is unknown; Peter, who died while serving as a Confederate soldier; John E., of Lee county; Amanda, wife of a Mr. Locke, of California; and Flavia, also of that State. Mrs. Ponkey died in Ohio, in 18—, and the father was afterward married in that State to Miss Maria Rogers, who departed this life a short time after her husband's death.

W. A. Ponkey, the subject of this sketch, was born in Campbell county, Virginia, October 5, 1834. After reaching manhood the family came to Texas, where he followed agricultural pursuits until the opening of the late war. In 1861 he enlisted in the Second Texas Regiment, Company H, and took part in the battle of Shiloh. He was wounded in the left foot in that engagement, from the effects of which he was almost an invalid for several years after the close of the struggle. Mr. Ponkey now owns 179 acres of land in the Dime Box neighborhood.

He was married in Lee county, in 1864, to Isabella Ann Cunningham, and they have had six children: James, Robert, Susan, Olivia, Frank and Augusta. Politically, Mr. Ponkey affiliates with the Democratic party, and religiously, is a Deacon in the Presbyterian Church.

John E. Ponkey, a brother of our subject, was born in Rutland, Ohio, August 20, 1846. He was reared in Lee county, Texas, where he now owns one farm of seventy acres and another of 150 acres in Dime Box neighbor-



hood. He affiliates with the Democratic party, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Ponkey has never married.



**W** DAVIDSON, one of the most enterprising and successful men of Williamson county, was born in Franklin county, Tennessee, August 20, 1822, a son of Louis and Mary M. (Mullins) Davidson, the former a native of South Carolina, and the latter of Virginia. The Davidson family trace their ancestors to General Davidson, of Revolutionary fame, and of Irish descent. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Matthew Mullins, also a Revolutionary soldier, was a farmer by occupation and his death occurred in Virginia. The Mullins are related to the Yancey family, of national reputation. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Davidson were the parents of ten children, viz.: Asberry, a Methodist minister, was a delegate to the Church Convention at the opening of the late war, and was stationed at Memphis, Vicksburg, Jackson and New Orleans; John served in the Indian war, and died while in service, in Florida; Manson, who was also a minister of great power, but on account of failing health was obliged to abandon the ministry, and he died in Tennessee about 1885; James who held the office of Sheriff many years, died while serving as Regimental Commissary during the late war; Susan, wife of Robert Lassiter, who represented Coffee county, Tennessee, in the Legislature; Patsey, wife of D. D. Smith; W., our subject; Nancy, wife of G. Hamilton; Betsey married W. Janes, and after his death she came to Texas, in 1889, where she died December 22, 1892; and Lucy married De-Green Laster, who came to Fannin county,

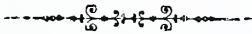
Texas, at an early day, was a leading physician of that day, and his death occurred in 1848.

W. Davidson, the subject of this sketch, was reared in the same house as Isham G. Harris, who served as Governor of Tennessee. He remained at home until reaching years of maturity, when he erected and conducted a mill in Coffee county about eight years. While a resident of Tennessee he served as Deputy Sheriff and Constable, and followed milling and trading until 1871, when he came to Williamson county, Texas. He immediately purchased a farm, but twelve years later sold that place and bought land in this locality, consisting of 400 acres. Mr. Davidson shortly afterward traded that tract for his present farm of 700 acres, located in Gabriel valley, near Jonah, and this is one of the most beautiful farms in the county. He has 500 acres of his place under a good state of cultivation, and his home is beautifully situated near the banks of the San Gabriel river. Mr. Davidson also has a fine grist mill, gin and fifty-five acres of land at Jonah. The mill is a four-story frame building. When our subject came to this locality only about 2,500 bales of cotton were made annually in a radius of six miles, and about 10,000 bales are now annually ginned. His gin alone turns out about 2,500 bales yearly. The first court in this county was held under a tree where Jonah now stands, and the geographical center of Williamson county is within one mile of this place.

Mr. Davidson was united in marriage, in 1843, to Miss Martha L. Braudon, a daughter of Lem Brandon, a Methodist minister of Tennessee. To this union were born two children: Elizabeth, who was twice married, first to R. Wildman, and afterward to Thomas Bruce, a prominent farmer of this county,



and Martha, deceased at the age of seventeen years. The wife and mother died in 1847, having been a consistent member of the Methodist Church. In 1854 Mr. Davidson married Miss Catherine McComb, a native of Alabama, and a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Jones) McComb. The father was a prominent farmer, was a fine public speaker, and took an active interest in public affairs, but never aspired to public office. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson have had five children: Asberry B., District Attorney of DeWitt county, Texas; James L. S. and Sally E., at home; Mary, deceased in 1890, was the wife of Dr. Nowlan; and Andy M., wife of Walter Farley, a farmer of Williamson county. Our subject takes an active interest in the Democratic party, is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



**A** T. MORRIS, a livery man of Bastrop, was born in Platte county, Missouri, June 16, 1859, a son of Jesse P. and Sarah M. (Pumphrey) Morris, natives of Illinois and Kentucky, respectively. The parents were married in Missouri. The father, a farmer by occupation, served in the war with Mexico, came to Texas in 1877, locating in Bastrop county, and was disabled from active duty in the late war on account of sickness, caused from exposure in the war with Mexico. He died in 1885, in his sixty-second year, and his wife departed this life in 1879. Four of their children lived to years of maturity: A. T., our subject; Mollie, wife of A. S. Dyer, of Mountain Home, Idaho; D. M., of this county; and Lucy A., also of Idaho.

A. T. Morris attended the Commercial Col-

lege of St. Joseph, Missouri, and remained with his father until twenty years of age. He then farmed on rented land one year, when he purchased 360 acres of land in Hill county, Texas, with 120 acres cultivated, and while there followed farming, milling and ginning. He next sold his farm and embarked in the livery business in Bastrop, one year later traded his stable for 970 acres of wild land in San Saba and Brown counties, and engaged in the livery and stage line business in McDade, Bastrop county, but that venture proved unsuccessful. Mr. Morris next traded his wild land for a cotton gin on Elm creek, sold the same in 1883, and from 1884 to 1890 was engaged in freighting. He was then elected Constable of Bastrop township, later appointed Deputy Sheriff, filling that office three years. Since 1893 he has conducted his livery, feed and sale stable, and also has a large blacksmith shop in Bastrop.

In 1886 Mr. Morris was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Hutchinson, a daughter of Edward Hutchinson, a native of England. The latter's mother, Jean Hutchinson, had three children: Edward Packenham, father of Mrs. Morris; Henry, who is supposed to have died in Australia; William went on a visit to his mother in England, and while returning to America died at sea; and Mabel, who died unmarried. Edward Hutchinson, the father of Mrs. Morris, came to America in a very early day, locating in Bastrop, Texas, where he became a prominent teacher. He served for a time in the war of 1864-'65. His wife, *nee* Susan Highsmith, is a sister of Captain Andrew W. Highsmith, of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson were the parents of one child, Mary, now the wife of our subject. The father was a relative of General Packenham, for whom he was named.





His death occurred in 1865, and the mother now resides with her daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have three sons: Edwin T., born February 12, 1887; Earl L., in 1889; and Jessie H., in 1892. Both Mr. and Mrs. Morris are members of the Baptist Church. The former also affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Bastrop Lodge, No. 244, and was the youngest member of his lodge for two years.



**W**ILLIAM OLIVER SPENCER, a successful farmer of Williamson county, is a son of William and Rachel (Brooks) Spencer. The grandfather of our subject, Moses Spencer, was born and raised in New York, and after marriage located on a farm near Albany. His land was taken from him, however, by Van Rensselaer, who obtained a grant from the British Government, and he lost his entire possessions. With a family consisting of a wife and one child, the father of our subject, he then emigrated to Pendleton District, South Carolina, where he remained until after the Revolutionary war, in which he served as a private soldier during the entire struggle. Late in the last century the family located in Barren county, Kentucky, where William Spencer grew to manhood, having been born in 1771. He was married there to Loriania Snow, and they had three children, all of whom are now deceased. The wife also died. The father then moved to Illinois, locating near the Indiana line, where he married the mother of our subject, a lady of Irish birth. The family continued to reside in Illinois until 1854, when the mother died, and the children having married and left home, the father went to live with a daughter in Iowa. He died there in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer were the

parents of seven children: Betsy, deceased; William O., our subject; Jane A., John M., James B. and Rachel, deceased; and Thomas C., a resident of Livingston county, Illinois. Mr. Spencer was a farmer by occupation, a Whig in politics, a Baptist in religious faith, and was a prominent man in his community. He served many years as a Justice of the Peace. During the war of 1812 he lived on the Wabash-river, and by personal request of General Harrison, then Governor of Indiana, remained at home and took charge of the mills of that section.

William Oliver Spencer, the subject of this sketch, was born in the then Territory of Illinois, in what is now Lawrence county, September 2, 1810. In 1824 he moved with his parents to Fulton county, west of Illinois river, where he grew to manhood, and was there married. From 1838 to 1851 the family resided in Washington county, near Fayette, Arkansas. In 1847 they came on a prospecting tour to Texas, remaining in Bastrop about one year, and in 1849 returned to Arkansas. In 1851 they sold their possessions in that State, and again came to Texas, remaining in Bastrop until after the wife's death. Mr. Spencer then purchased 553 acres of land at his present location, three miles above the present site of Liberty Hill, and was one of the earliest settlers in this part of the county. For several years after locating here, Liberty Hill was without a post office. One day General Rusk, a prominent figure in early Texas history, camped a short distance from Spencer's home, with a body of rangers. He was invited to supper at the latter's house, and after the meal Mr. Spencer stated his desire to have a post office located in this part of the county. As General Rusk was a member of Congress and Chairman of the Post Office Committee, he sat down and be-



gan writing a recommendation that an office be located here, and that our subject should be the Postmaster. Mr. Spencer was asked for a suitable name for the office, and, thinking of the free and easy character of the people, answered, "Call it Liberty Hill, General." Mr. Spencer held the office several years, and then resigned the position in favor of the first merchant that located in this section.

Mr. Spencer was first married July 19, 1829, to Amy Wilcoxon. They had twelve children, only four of whom grew to years of maturity, viz.: Eliza Ann, widow of J. T. Miller, and a resident of Austin; Emily, deceased; J. M., of Belton, Texas; and Ellen, wife of J. W. Owen, also of that county. The wife and mother died in Bastrop, January 12, 1853. In 1854 our subject returned on a visit to Fulton county, Illinois, and was there married to Mrs. Margaret Spencer, who was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, May 4, 1826, a daughter of William B. and Mary (Reagan) Smilie. On the maternal side, the family located in the latter county from Wales before the Revolutionary war. The Smilie family are of Irish descent, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Spencer, John Smilie, having emigrated to America from that country. He was one of the first settlers of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, and while there was prominent in public affairs, having represented Pennsylvania in the United States Senate. The grandfather, Robert P. Smilie, passed his entire life in that county. Mr. and Mrs. William B. Smilie had seven children: Weldon R., of Woodford county, Illinois; Margaret C., wife of our subject; Robert P., of Liverpool, Fulton county, Illinois; Harriet, wife of C. A. Babcock; Norvel, deceased; and Norman and David H., of Stella, Nebraska. Margaret Smilie was first

married in Fulton county, Illinois, where her father had moved his family in 1841, in 1844, to James B. Spencer, a younger brother of her present husband. They had four children: Theodore, of Lovelock, Butte county, California; Ann E., wife of J. M. Spencer, of Belton, Texas; Harriet E., widow of Jeff J. Miller, who lives with her parents; and William A., of Liberty Hill. Mr. and Mrs. William O. Spencer have also had four children: Perry, deceased; Oliver, of Liberty Hill; Lizzie, wife of M. C. Hurley, of Ft. Worth, Texas; and Tacy, now Mrs. J. M. Grant, also of that city.



**J** H. KRENEK, a prominent farmer of Lee county, is a son of Joseph and Rozina (Reek) Krenek, natives of Bohemia. The grandfather of our subject, Joseph Krenek, was a farmer of that country, as was also his maternal grandfather, Hon. John Reek. The father of our subject was born, reared and married in Bohemia, and emigrated from near Frankstadt, Moravia, to America, in 1866, locating in Fayette county, Texas, three miles south of Fayetteville. The father died there June 1, 1887, and the mother September 20, 1892. The parents had nine children, seven now living; Ignatz, of Fayette county; Juhana, now Mrs. Spaeck, also of that county; Rozina, now Mrs. Skopik, of Burleson county, Texas; John H., our subject; Mary, now Mrs. Reek, of Fayette county; Anton, of that county; and Rozallia, now Mrs. Frank, also of Fayette county.

J. H. Krenek was born in Moravia, November 24, 1853, and was reared to manhood in Fayette county, Texas. He subsequently located on a farm in Burleson county, where



he remained until coming to his present place, three miles east of Dime Box. He owns 450 acres of land, 130 acres of which is under cultivation, has a fine new residence, a good orchard, is giving considerable attention to sheep-raising, and his annual yield of cotton is from ten to fifteen bales. Mr. Krenek paid \$3,300 for his farm, and the place is now worth about \$6,000.

In Washington county, Texas, November 19, 1874, he was united in marriage with Alzbeta Shebesta. They have had seven children, viz.: Louis, Albina, Emma, Eddie, deceased; Eddie, Terezia, deceased; and Terezia. Mr. Krenek votes with the Democratic party, and was raised in the Catholic faith.



**G**EORGE E. GAY, a successful farmer of Lee county, is a son of Thomas and Eleanor (Hope) Gay. The father emigrated from Georgia to Texas, and was one of the 300 persons to form the Austin colony in 1828. He was then about eighteen years of age. In 1831 in the town of San Felipe, he was united in marriage with Eleanor Hope. Her father had moved his family to Texas a year or so previous to her marriage, and had returned to England to settle his affairs. On coming again to this country the ship was wrecked, and he has never been heard from since that time. The father of our subject was a machinist by occupation, but during the stampede was conducting a store at San Felipe. He took part with Houston in the battle of San Jacinto, and afterward located in the town of Washington, on the Brazos river where he was engaged in business under the firm name of Bailey, Gay & Hoxie. He contracted the yellow fever while on a business trip to Gal-

veston, and died soon after returning home in 1839. He was a shrewd and thrifty business man, and at his death owned about 100,000 acres of wild land. Mr. and Mrs. Gay were the parents of four children.—George E., our subject; William, deceased; Milam, deceased; and Ann, wife of B. A. Watson, of Burton, Texas. About ten years after the father's death, the mother married Luke Roberts. Her death occurred in 1857.

George E. Gay, the subject of this sketch, was born in San Felipe, Texas, November 3, 1833, and was reared to manhood in the town of Washington. He came to his present location, String Prairie, seven miles from Lexington, January 1, 1859, where he owns 300 acres of land, 125 acres under a fine state of cultivation. In 1861 Mr. Gay enlisted as a private in Company A, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, and he served west of the Mississippi river. He participated in the battles of Milliken's Bend, Yellow Bayou, Saline, took part in a great deal of marching and scout service, and was paroled at Hempstead, Texas. In his political views, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and during the war served as Treasurer of Burleson county. Socially, he has taken the Royal Arch and Council degrees of Masonry.

Mr. Gay was married in this county, in January, 1855, to Mary H. Barbee, a member of an old Texas family. They have had thirteen children, namely: Thomas, of Rockdale, Texas; William F., a resident of Caldwell, this state; Virginia, now Mrs. James Stockton, of Lometa; George, deceased; Leola, deceased; Bulah, now Mrs. D. B. Green, of Arkadelphia, Arkansas; T. E., of Lubbock county, Texas; Ella, wife of A. M. Nalley, of Lee county; C. E., deceased; Pearl, now Mrs. Edd Arendale, of near Lexington; Ernest, Genoa, and Sam Houston, at home. Mr. Gay



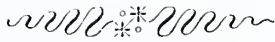




*W. F. Leaper*



is well and favorably known in his community, and is versatile, intelligent and progressive in everything pertaining to the education and advancement of his locality.



**W**ILLIAM FLEAGER, late of Georgetown, Texas, was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, August 27, 1819, a son of Daniel and Susan (Snively) Fleager, who were born and married in Pennsylvania, and of German descent. The father was a wagon-maker by trade, and both parents died quite young.

William Fleager, our subject, served an apprenticeship at the tailor's trade in Harrisburg and Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He then resided in Richmond, Indiana, two years; lived in Putnam, same State; was in Ottawa, Illinois, during the digging of the canal; in 1838 went to St. Louis; the following year to New Orleans; witnessed the celebration of the battle of New Orleans in 1841; spent eight years in Haywood county, Tennessee; was then in Mississippi for a time, and in 1852 located near Lexington, Texas. Mr. Fleager was engaged in farming there until 1860, when he came to Williamson county, locating two miles west of Florence. After 1880 he was a resident of Georgetown. During the war he did much service in making clothes, and after the close of the struggle he purchased a wagon and six mules and engaged in freighting from Brenham to Austin and Columbus, also on the coast. In this way he made his start in life. After the railroad came to Austin he engaged in the sewing-machine business in 1873, which he long continued in a small way. He sold over 3,000 machines, averaging over 300 a year.

Mr. Fleager was married in Haywood county, Tennessee, to M. J. Moore, and they

had two children: Charles N. and Rosell. The latter is the widow of J. B. Whittenberg, and a resident of Florence. She has four children: William B., Olin B., Mary and Ann. Charles N., proprietor of a jewelry store in Georgetown, married Maggie Whittenberg, and they have seven children: Joseph E., Ernest B., Bessie L., Mary L., Lucy B., Bertha L. and William H. Mrs. Fleager was born in 1825, a daughter of Richard and Mary (McKendree) Moore. The latter was a niece of Bishop McKendree, by whom Mrs. Fleager was baptized. Mr. Moore was a native of Virginia, a farmer by occupation, and was married near Nashville, Tennessee. They afterward located near Brownsville, Haywood county, Tennessee, where he died in 1829, aged forty years. He was a devout and prominent member of the Methodist Church, as were also all his children. Mr. and Mrs. Moore had six children, viz.: James, who served through the late war, and died of dropsy soon after the close of the struggle, at the age of fifty-seven years; Dioneceia, deceased in Mississippi in 1844, was the wife of Thomas Wadkins; Martha, deceased in 1860, aged thirty-five years, was three times married, first to P. Traylor, second to a Mr. Brown, and her third husband was Rev. Arnold; Sarah Ann, who died in 1859, at the age of forty years, was the wife of William Wynn; M. J., now Mrs. Fleager; and Caroline, wife of J. W. Bates. After the father's death the mother married J. W. Moser, and they had four children: Elizabeth, wife of Rev. J. W. Bates, a Methodist minister of Mississippi; John, who took part in the late war, with General Hood, and died at Rome, Georgia, in 1863, aged twenty-five years; Roena, deceased at Salado, Texas, at the age of thirty-seven years, was the wife of P. Millhollin; and Daniel, a farmer of Reynolds



county, Texas. Mrs. Mosher died in 1868, aged sixty-eight years. She was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church from girlhood. Mrs. Fleager's father, step-father and both grandfathers, James McKendree and Nathaniel Moore, were ministers in the Methodist Episcopal Church. She is now sixty-eight years of age, and her life has been an inspiration to gentleness, faith, patience and courage. Socially, Mr. Fleager was a member of the I. O. O. F. Our subject and wife would have celebrated their golden wedding June 26, 1893, but the former died of pneumonia on the 28th of December, 1892.



**T**HOMAS ADKINS, deceased, was born at Stratford-on-Avon, made famous as the home of Shakespeare, May 25, 1847, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Allibone) Adkins, also of England. The father was a machinist by occupation, and Thomas was early inured to that calling. At the age of eighteen years he emigrated alone to America, and for a number of years remained in the Northern States, but finally, in 1871, came to Burleson county, Texas. For the following year he was engaged in the stock business, and then came to what is known as the Dime Box neighborhood, Lee county, following agricultural pursuits there five years. In 1877 Mr. Adkins embarked in mercantile pursuits in Giddings, county seat of Lee county, where he continued that occupation until death, March 22, 1891. He was also engaged in stock raising and farming, and owned a steam brick yard, a livery stable, &c. In his political views, he was identified with the Democratic party, and religiously, was a member of the Baptist Church.

December 19, 1872, in the String Prairie neighborhood, Lee county, Mr. Adkins was united in marriage with Martha E. McClanahan. Since her husband's death, Mrs. Adkins has resided with her brother, Harvey McClanahan.



**J**OHAN T. RICKS, one of the representative citizens of Williamson county, was born in Nelson county, Kentucky, July 7, 1818, a son of William and Susan (Chalfant) Ricks, natives also of that State. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a Revolutionary soldier, and his wife was a relative of General Cox, who served with W. H. Harrison. William Ricks died in 1832. He was the father of six children: Eleanor, John T., Nancy, Louisa, Margaret J. and William. The last named now resides in Pettis county, Missouri. Only four of the children are now living.

John T. Ricks, the subject of this sketch, and the only one in his father's family to come to Texas, received a limited education, and was reared to farm-life. In 1836, at the age of eighteen, he removed with his widowed mother and her family to Missouri, where he lived in several different counties. At the time of the Mormon uprising, he assisted in raising a company, of which he was made Lieutenant, and they went to Independence, Missouri, the Mormon stronghold. The Mormons, however, surrendered, and no blood was shed. In 1840 Mr. Ricks returned to Kentucky, went thence to Missouri, in 1850 to California, where he followed mining fifteen months, and then went again to Missouri. In 1856 he located in Texas, where he followed carpentering in Webberville two years, and then engaged in buying horses in





Mexico. From 1860 until 1862 he followed merchandising, was then a member of the State Guards one year, and at the close of the war, Mr. Ricks found himself financially ruined. In 1869 he opened a mercantile store in Round Rock, Williamson county, in partnership with H. B. Sheppard, which he continued two years, after which he bought and improved a tract of raw land, erected a fine rock house, made many other valuable improvements, and still resides on this place, located one mile from the city. He also owns two other improved farms, and his attention is now given to his land interests, in the loaning of money, etc.

Mr. Ricks was first married in Missouri, in 1852, to Miss Emily Homes, a native of Kentucky, and they had two children, both now deceased. The wife and mother died in July, 1855, and in 1860, in Texas, our subject married Virginia E. Glascock. She died in February, 1870, and in Austin, in the following year, he married his present wife, Mrs. Augusta Wilson. She is a daughter of Dr. T. T. Sandifer, a native of South Carolina, but who afterward removed to North Carolina, where he followed the practice of medicine. He still resides in that State, but is retired from the active duties of his profession. At one time he was a member of the Legislature. His father, Philip Sandifer, was also a native of South Carolina, and was a prominent planter and slave-owner. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Ricks, Zachens Wilson, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Dr. Sandifer and wife had four children: Sarah, Augusta, Calvin (deceased), and Robert. The latter, an attorney by profession, resides in North Carolina, where he has served two terms in the State Senate, and was elected to the same in the present year. Mrs. Ricks' first hus-

band, Mr. Wilson, came to Texas at the age of nine years. In 1861 he entered the Confederate service, in Tom Green's Rifles, Captain McLaren's Company, Hood's Brigade, Fourth Texas Regiment; served four years, and was wounded at Drury's Bluff. He was discharged in the following February, after which he returned to North Carolina. He was married December 22, 1864, and in October, 1865, came to Williamson county, Texas, where he died June 28, 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Ricks have had no children of their own, but have an adopted son, Frank C. Ricks. He became a member of the family at the age of seven years, and is now fifteen years old. Mr. Ricks takes an active interest in politics, was formerly identified with the Democratic party, but is now independent. Socially, he affiliates with the Royal Arch Masons and the I. O. O. F., and in religion, both he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church.



**H** B. SHEPPARD, one of the enterprising and successful citizens of Williamson county, was born in Georgia, November 20, 1837, a son of William and Susan (Adams) Sheppard, native of South Carolina. The father came to Texas, enlisted in the late war in 1862, and his death occurred at Galveston, in 1864. The mother died in Georgia. Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard had five children: Eliza, a resident of Newton county, Texas; H. B., our subject; Nancy, wife of Elijah Kelly, of San Augustine county; William A., a resident of Georgia; and John, a farmer of Newton county, Texas.

H. B. Sheppard, came to Texas with his parents in 1849, at the age of ten years,



locating in Jasper county. He received a limited education, and at the age of fifteen years was employed as a mail-carrier. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age, after which he followed clerking eight years, and in the winter of 1860 embarked in merchandising in Round Rock, Williamson county. At the opening of the late war Mr. Sheppard hired a substitute, but later was conscripted, and served in the commissary department, held the rank of Captain, and held another position under the Government. In the spring of 1866, Mr. Sheppard resumed merchandising, which he continued until 1882, and in that year sold his store. He has held the office of Tax Assessor four years, served as County Commissioner three years, and is now assisting in conducting a general mercantile business. In addition to this, he also owns a large tract of land, where he was formerly engaged in stock-raising, but he now rents his farm.

Mr. Sheppard was married in Round Rock, in 1862, to Miss T. C. Blair, who was born in Gibson county, Tennessee, July 8, 1839, a daughter of D. D. Blair, a native also of that State. The latter came to Williamson county, Texas, in 1854, where he died in 1868. Mr. Sheppard takes an active interest in the Democratic party, and has held many minor and prominent offices. Socially, he is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Knights of Honor and the I. O. O. F. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

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**D** W. PROCTOR, one of Williamson county's most enterprising business men, was born in Maine, September 11, 1838, a son of Jason and Mary (Whitehouse)

Proctor, natives also of that State. The paternal grandfather came from England. The maternal grandfather, Thomas Whitehouse, was a native of Maine, of English extraction, and was an influential and public spirited man. Mr. and Mrs. Proctor had two children, and the last known of the oldest son his residence was in Ohio, but nothing has been heard from him since that time.

D. W. Proctor, the subject of this sketch, was left an orphan at the age of seven years, and he grew to manhood in New York city, under the care of an uncle. He received no educational advantages, and while in that city worked in a printing office. From 1860 to 1862 he followed mining in Colorado, and in the latter year engaged in the electrotypes business in St. Louis. In 1864, after some experience with army tactics, Mr. Proctor returned to New York; traveled for a time; conducted a restaurant in Boston; from March, 1866 to 1870, was engaged in rail-roading in Minneapolis, Minnesota; in the latter year removed to Galveston, and afterward located in Liberty county, Texas. While in Liberty county he engaged in merchandising and the cattle business, driving beef cattle to Louisiana, and had a large and profitable trade. He also fitted up wagons, and sold goods over the country. After closing business there, Mr. Proctor drifted to Galveston, and in 1877 opened a mercantile store at Corn Hill, Williamson county. In 1878 he erected a large steam gin, and in 1879 closed his mercantile business, since which time he has been engaged in farming and ginning. For the past few years our subject has handled stock quite extensively, having a registered male Jersey, and also has both the Percheron and roadster horses. Since erecting his gin, he makes about 600 bales of cotton annually.



Mr. Proctor was married in 1874, to Miss Maggie Robertson, who was born in Mississippi, in March, 1854, a daughter of widow Robertson, who came to Texas during the late war. To this union has been born three children: E. M., born November 17, 1875; Etta, January 5, 1877; and Mary Bell, May 20, 1888. Mr. Proctor takes an active interest in politics, voting with the People's party, but was formerly identified with the Democratic party. He affiliates with the I. O. O. F., and Farmers Alliance, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



**CAPTAIN THOMAS S. DOUGLASS**, a farmer of Lee county, is a son of James and Lucy (Scurlock) Douglass, of Scotch descent. The ancestors settled in North Carolina before the Revolutionary war. The grandfather of our subject, James Douglass, moved with his family to Sumner county, Tennessee, where he raised a large family. In 1856 there were 500 of that name in Sumner county. When a young man the father of our subject moved to Louisiana, where he was married in 1826, but on account of failing health returned to Tennessee. In 1852 he came to Texas, first locating in Orange county, but two years later came to Lee county, where he died in 1884, aged eighty-four years. The mother died in 1876. Mr. Douglass was a thrifty farmer and large land owner, a staunch Democrat in his political views, and a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Douglass were the parents of four children: William A., deceased; Rebecca A., wife of Judge Thomas H. Brenan, of Lexington, Texas; Felicianna, deceased; Thomas S., the subject of this sketch.

Thomas S. Douglass was born in Sumner county, Tennessee, September 17, 1838, and came to Texas with his parents in 1852. In August, 1861, he enlisted as First Lieutenant of Company H, Second Texas Infantry, and took part in the battles of Shiloh, Farmington, Iuka, Corinth, Chickasaw Bayou and siege of Vicksburg. After the battle of Iuka he was promoted to Captain of his company. Mr. Douglass was severely wounded in the head by the bursting of a shell at the siege of Vicksburg, remained in a hospital for a time, and was then paroled and returned home. The regiment was afterward reorganized and stationed at Galveston, and Mr. Douglass served as Provost Marshal until the surrender. After the close of the war he purchased his present farm of 300 acres. He has always taken an active interest in politics, is a staunch Democrat, but has never sought public office. Socially, he is a Royal Arch Mason, and religiously, a Steward in the Methodist Church.

September 22, 1863, after his return from Vicksburg, Mr. Douglass married Miss Ada, a daughter of Mrs. M. Massey. The latter was a niece of the noted Captain Shaw, a prominent character in early Texas history. She moved with her parents from Missouri to Texas in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Douglass have had four children: Arthur and Ellen, deceased; Homer, at home; and a babe unnamed.



**FRANK ATKINSON**, engaged in the drug business at Florence, Williamson county, was born in this city, October 30, 1863. He attended the common schools of Florence, and in 1883, at the age twenty years, began clerking in the drug store of his





brother, George C. In 1886 he purchased and took charge of the business, which he still continues, and also owns a half interest in another drug store. He is one of the most enterprising young business men of Florence.

Mr. Atkinson was married in this city, January 20, 1889, to Bertha R., a daughter of C. C. Ridley. She was born in Rutherford county, Tennessee, and, her mother having died when she was small, was raised by an aunt, the wife of Dr. George Crosthwait. Mr. Ridley was again married and moved to Florence, Texas, where Mrs. Atkinson joined him in 1885. Our subject and wife have two children; John Ridley and Frank. In his political views, Mr. Atkinson is a Democrat.



**D**ANIEL V. GRANT, a merchant of Liberty Hill, Williamson county, is a son of Matthew M. and Sarah M. (Brown) Grant. The following is extracted from an autobiography of Matthew M. Grant. The family name was brought from Scotland before the Revolutionary war by Alexander Grant, the great-grandfather of our subject. He was Captain of a company during that struggle, and died at about its close from wounds received in service. Grandfather Daniel Grant was left an orphan at the age of seven years, and was bound out to a plasterer and stucco worker in Washington, District Columbia, where he remained until 1805. In that year he went to Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was soon afterward married to Mary McLean, of Scotch descent. The McLeans were prominent in Western Pennsylvania in an early day, a brother of Mrs. Grant, David McLean, having published the Pittsburg Gazette for many years. Mr. Grant remained in Westmoreland

county a number of years, and then settled in Butler county, where he died May 18, 1857, his wife having survived him many years. They were the parents of ten children, all of whom are now deceased but four. Matthew W. Grant, the eldest child, was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, June 14, 1808, and at the age of thirteen years was apprenticed to his uncle, David McLean, to learn the printer's trade, serving a term of six years. He was married in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, August 7, 1832. In his autobiography he says of his wife: "A purer-hearted woman than my wife I do not think ever lived, and I am glad here to say that under God, she has been my earthly salvation." Mr. and Mrs. Grant had eight children, viz.: James B., who died of cholera in his twentieth year; Mary J., died of brain fever at the age of ten years; Eliza S. died with spasms at three years of age; Rebecca D., wife of A. F. Ainsworth, of Liberty Hill; and the remainder died in infancy. In closing his autobiography, Mr. Grant, says: "And now, at the close of the year 1860, in the full and perfect enjoyment of all my powers, mental and physical, the retrospect of my life affords me much satisfaction, and causes but little regret. Goodness and mercy have truly followed me all my days, and I see much in the past to call forth gratitude to God, and inspire hope in Him for the future. I have no fault to find with this life, while I indulge the confident belief that to 'depart and be with Christ' I shall be perfectly willing when the Master's summons come."

Daniel V. Grant, the subject of this sketch, was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, January 17, 1835. At the age of thirteen years he was employed as clerk at Freeport, Pennsylvania, and subsequently was engaged as steamboat clerk on a line between Pittsburg



and New Orleans. In 1853 he came to Texas, was engaged as clerk in a country store near Paris, Lamar county, until 1858, and in that year embarked in business for himself at Gabriel Mills, Williamson county. In 1867 Mr. Grant came to Liberty Hill, and since 1870 has been the leading merchant of the town. In 1862 he enlisted as a private in Company G, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, was soon promoted Second Lieutenant, and later served as Captain of his company until peace was declared. He remained on the west side of the Mississippi river, and his services were marked with faithfulness and efficiency. In his political relations, Mr. Grant is a Democrat. He is Treasurer of the Masonic fraternity, and is a Steward and zealous worker in the Methodist Church, also a teacher in the Sunday-school.

Captain Grant was married in Lamar county, Texas, May 10, 1855, to Melvina T. Casbeer. They have had nine children, namely: J. M., in charge of the express office at Fort Worth; Sarah L., a teacher in the preparatory department of the Southwestern University at Georgetown; Rebecca wife of Mr. Harris, of Goldthwaite, Texas; Thomas C., depot agent of the Austin & Northwestern Railroad at Liberty Hill; James B., who died October 31, 1892; Lillie, a teacher in the public school of Goldthwaite; Melvina, wife Prof. J. H. Moorly, of Liberty Hill; Kate and Margie, at home.



**M**RS. MARY J. PHEGLEY, an estimable lady and widely known resident of Burleson county, Texas, is one of the largest property owners in the county, being the widow of Merifield Phegley, who was for many years an ener-

getic and progressive citizen of this vicinity, and who contributed in various ways to the advancement and welfare of the community.

Merifield Phegley was born in Kentucky, April 1, 1818, where he grew to manhood. He was there married, and his first child was born in that State. In 1847 he moved to Texas and settled in Burleson county, where, after one or two moves, he took up his residence near Caldwell, where the remainder of his life was passed. He was poor when he came to the Lone Star State, but by prudent management and hard work he acquired a comfortable inheritance, and left his family comfortably provided for. At the time of his death, he had about 1800 acres of valuable land, there being more than 500 acres under cultivation on his five or six farms. He spent most of his life in farming and stock-raising, hogs being his principal production. He was endowed with more than ordinary energy and enterprise, and being retired and domestic in his tastes, gave his attention strictly to his home interests. He was not active in politics, other than casting his influence in favor of worthy and capable men for office. He joined the Baptist Church in early life and was ever a worthy member of that denomination. Of thorough integrity, industrious and kind-hearted, he made many warm friends in his community, by whom he was greatly mourned on his death, August 8, 1892. his memory being still cherished by those among whom so many useful years of his life was spent.

Mr. Phegley was first married to Miss Sarah A. Porter, daughter of Benjamin Porter, of Kentucky, who removed to Texas in 1847, and in 1848 settled in Mr. Phegley's neighborhood. By this marriage there were ten children, six daughters and four sons, three of whom died young and seven attained



maturity. Thomas L. now resides in Burleson county; Elnora is the wife of H. C. Hooten, a prosperous stock-raiser of San Saba county; Mary A. married L. Matingale, and she has since died, Martha A. married G. W. Capps, and she also has departed this life; Virginia married R. E. Thompson, and she died, leaving one child, Nonie May Thompson, who is living with her grandmother; Alice C. married W. C. Carroll, and she too, is now deceased; Rufus C. died at the age of sixteen years. The mother of this family died January 3, 1878, after a long life of unselfish devotion to the interests of her husband and children.

July 1, 1879, Mr. Phegley married the subject of this sketch, who was then the widow of A. M. Denman, formerly of Mississippi, where they were married November 22, 1866. Mr. Denman was born in Madison county, Mississippi, June 6, 1841, and entered the Confederate army before he was grown, in which he served until the close of the war. Five of his brothers served in the army with him. In 1869 he moved to Texas and settled in Burleson county. By this marriage there were three children; Edward M., unmarried and at home; R. L., who died young, and Alex Harris, also at home.

Mrs. Phegley was the daughter of Harris and Frances A. (Hitt) Samuel of South Carolina. Her father was left an orphan at the tender age of five years, was early inured to toil, and learned that self-reliance and perseverance which contributed to his future success in life. He was a planter and was esteemed a worthy man. He served with bravery through the Florida war and rendered efficient service to his country. He was a Mason of forty-one years' standing, and was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He died in Mississippi,

August 12, 1869, after a long and useful life.

Mrs. Phegley had, by her second marriage, four children, one of whom died in infancy. Those now living are: Merifield, born May 28, 1880; John S., born December 23, 1883; and Frances D., born January 23, 1885.

Mrs. Phegley is a woman of unusual intelligence and ability, and manages her large possessions with care and profit. She is a useful member of the Baptist Church. Her long residence and business ability have rendered her well known throughout her community, where she is universally esteemed for her many worthy traits of character.



**M** F. ALEXANDER, a popular and successful real-estate dealer of Giddings, Texas, was born in Tennessee, January 15, 1814, son of Adley and Susan (Alexander) Alexander, both natives of Mecklenberg, North Carolina. The father was a farmer and died at an early age from the effects of a fall from a horse, being only twenty-six years of age at the time of his death. The mother survived him many years, living to the great age of eighty-eight, and died near Giddings in 1886.

The subject of this sketch was the only child and was reared on a farm, and followed agricultural pursuits until 1872. January 1, 1839, he settled in the vicinity of Victoria, in Victoria county, Texas, his nearest neighbor being twenty-eight miles away. The country was wild, all kinds of game, including deer, turkeys and a few buffalo and bear, roamed over the vast tracts of land that had never known the touch of plow or harrow. In 1847 our subject settled near Evergreen, where he lived ten years. This place was then in Washington county. After remain-







*A. H. Nelson*



ing there for the time mentioned he moved within a mile and a half of the same place, settling on a farm, which he cultivated for twelve years. About this time he began to engage in land speculation, which he found so profitable that he eventually removed to Giddings, where he has since followed the real-estate business.

Mr. Alexander was married, November 8, 1836, to Miss Louisa Murphree, daughter of Stephen Murphree, and they had four sons and one daughter, all yet living. The wife died July 25, 1855, at the age of thirty-seven years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which she was a devout and active worker. After twenty years our subject married again, this second wife being Mrs. Saletha Harrison, who died in 1886, aged sixty-two years. Our subject has been a member of the I. O. O. F. for many years. He does not take very much interest in politics, but is an honest, worthy, public-spirited and popular man. No one stands higher in the esteem of his fellow-citizens than the subject of this sketch. He is a man of warm sensibilities, firm in his friendships and unswerving in the discharge of his duties. Few men in the State are so generally admired and liked by the people and none are more deservedly popular.



**A** J. NELSON, whose history is here outlined in brief, is worthy of recognition as one of the prisoners of Williamson county. A resident of the State since 1856 he has become identified with many early events, and has witnessed the development and growth of the frontier into one of the most admirable of the brilliant galaxy of States. Mr. Nelson is a na-

tive of Sweden, born July 24, 1835; he was reared to the life of a farmer, learning the habits of economy and industry that insure success. Without capital except the energy bestowed by nature, and without inheritance except a good name, he determined to try his fortunes in the New World. He embarked at Gottenberg in company with his father's family, arriving at New Orleans by way of Boston, and continuing the journey thence to Texas. The father located four miles south of Georgetown in Williamson county, and there with the aid of his son developed the most excellent tract of land and built a home; they labored and managed together with indefatigable zeal until the opening of hostilities between the North and the South. A. J. Nelson then entered the Confederate service, and was detailed to transport supplies. When the war was ended he accepted the result as a satisfactory solution of the great problem, laid aside his uniform for the garb of a citizen, and resumed his former occupation. He was extensively engaged in the live-stock trade, which he was conducting with much profit, when the stringency in the money market of 1872 compelled him to suspend operations, though without loss. He afterwards invested his capital in real-estate, and turned his attention especially to agriculture. The first purchase of land was a tract of 450 acres; six years later, in 1866, he made an additional purchase, and in 1871 bought the old home place. Of late years he has been feeding cattle for the market, shipping annually from 100 to 200 head. His landed estates aggregate 8,000 acres, 2,000 acres of which are in an advanced state of cultivation. Reaping large harvests, he does not dispose of a crop until he can do so with profit.

The father of our subject was born in the year 1802, and died in 1884; he was a man



of sterling worth, and was highly respected. He was married to Emma Hanson, and they reared four children: Matilda, wife of A. Newlin; A. J., whose name heads this notice; August, who died in 1866, and Lena, wife of A. J. Palm: four children died in infancy.

Mr. Nelson was married in January 4, 1870, to Hattie, daughter of John Nelson. She was born in 1850, and at the age of seventeen years came to Texas; they are the parents of six children: Mary B., Carl A., Oscar A., Elda, Thomas and Walter.

Upon the organization of the First National Bank, of Georgetown, Mr. Nelson became one of the heavy stockholders, and was elected Vice-president of the corporation, a fitting recognition of his superior ability as a financier. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party; in his religious faith he adheres to the teachings of the Lutheran Church.



**K**ENNETH MURCHISON, one of the leading farmers and pioneer settlers of Bastrop county, was born in Travis county, Texas, December 17, 1841, a son of Alexander and Mary (Nicholson) Murchison, natives of North Carolina, and of Scotch parentage. The parents spent four years in Tennessee, and in 1839 came by water to Texas, landing at the mouth of the Brazos river, at what is now known as Velasco. They then hired ox teams of a Mr. Moore, and landed in Travis county, in June, 1839. At that time only a few people resided in the county, and their daughter, Nancy J., is supposed to be the first white child born in Travis county. Mr. Murchison erected many of the first houses in Austin, but remained in that city only a few years, after which he began farming on Gil-

den's creek. Three years later he embarked in the manufacture of hats in Bastrop, having been a hatter by trade, and after the annexation of Texas to the United States came to Cedar Creek. He followed farming and stock-raising until his death, which occurred in 1873. Mr. Murchison did not participate in the war of 1846, but was a member of the minute men of his country, and took part in a number of engagements with the Indians. During his residence in Cedar Creek the Indians were very troublesome. During the late war he espoused the cause of the South, and donated of his means to support the army. At that time he owned a large body of land, an immense herd of cattle, was considered one of the most successful raisers of hogs in the county, and furnished the Blind and Insane Asylum, of Austin, with pork. When Mr. Murchison first came to the county, milling was done on the San Marcos river, a distance of about forty miles, and it required a week to make the trip. Society was of rough nature, but pure and honest, and churches and schools were scarce. A brother of Mr. Murchison, Daniel Murchison, was one of Austin's very first settlers, and was a noted land locator. After the Germans came into Texas he moved to New Brownsville, was looked upon by the Germans as a leading man, and located most of their land for them. He afterward married a German lady, and his death occurred in that county. During the war he was a Union man, and after the close of the struggle was a member of the Reconstruction Convention of Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Murchison were the parents of seven children, five of whom grew to years of maturity: Isabella, widow of H. T. Holt, and a resident of this county; Mary C., of Georgetown, is the widow of Dr. J. F. DeBardleben; Kenneth, our subject; Peter,







deceased, whose widow resides in Bastrop county; Alexander D., also of this county. The mother was born July 8, 1804, and now lives with her son, aged eighty-eight years. Her mother lived to be about 110 years of age.

The subject of this sketch, Kenneth Murchison, entered the army at the age of nineteen years, joining Company B, Seventh Texas Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel R. T. P. Allen, and later under Colonel G. W. Jones, Sr., of Bastrop. He served in the Trans-Mississippi Department, took part in the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, after which, with Walker's brigade, was ordered back to Texas. Mr. Murchison was captured at Pleasant Hill, but exchanged eleven days later, for Confederate soldiers captured on the east side of the river, after which he rejoined his command at Alexandria, Louisiana. Previous to the above mentioned battle, our subject took part in several minor engagements, the most noted being Milliken's Bend, Louisiana, where Walker's regiment was engaged against a regiment of negroes. He was elected First Lieutenant of his company, and surrendered at Clear Creek, Texas. On entering the army his company comprised 125 men, but at the close of the struggle only thirty of the original number were left. After returning home Mr. Murchison engaged in farming and stock-raising, and remained with his parents until 1870, when he purchased his present farm of 500 acres. Only forty acres of the place was then under cultivation, and the walls of his present residence were then standing. The floor was also made by a Mr. Litton, with a whip saw. Mr. Murchison has 150 acres of his place under cultivation, and is engaged quite extensively in the stock business. At the opening of the late war his father had

10,000 head of cattle, but at the close of that struggle only a few head were left, which were brought from Llano county, they having been taken there in 1857.

December 24, 1868, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Martha Willmoth White, a native of Bastrop county, and a daughter of Hamilton and Tabitha (Hutchinson) White, natives of Virginia. They came to Texas in 1836, were among the pioneer settlers of Bastrop, and also resided in eastern Texas. The father was a noted Indian fighter in this section. Mr. and Mrs. Murchison have had eight children, five now living: Peter A., Celestia, Nora, Stella and Kenneth. Mr. Murchison is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Red Rock Lodge, No. 310.



MRS. SARAH J. WALKER, is the widow of William W. Walker, who was born and raised in Alabama. He came to Texas with a sister, Mrs. P. Allen, in 1836. His brother, Martin Walker, came to this State the year previous, served in the Texas revolution, and was wounded at the battle of San Jacinto, from which he never fully recovered. He made his home with his brother the most of his life, and his death occurred in March, 1889. He had a small estate, which he left to his brother's children. William W. Walker located at Bastrop when that place contained only two houses, and the second night after his arrival here he was wounded in the shoulder with an Indian arrow, while looking after his horses. He made several trips to Houston in the freighting business, served in the ranging service for a time, had many skirmishes with the Indians, and experienced all



the hardships and privations of pioneer life. Mr. Walker continued farming in this county until 1849, and in that year went overland to California, where he followed freighting and mining for two years, returning to Bastrop county in July, 1853. Previous to going to that State he had purchased 250 acres of land of a Mr. Chambers, which his brother Martin had partially improved while he was absent. After returning to this county he began farming on this place, where he died December 25, 1888.

Mrs. Sarah J. Walker is the daughter of James and Mary A. (Aplin) Stevenson, natives of Kentucky. The father was a son of John Stevenson, who moved to Missouri, where he afterward died. He was a Methodist minister. James Stevenson came to Bastrop county, Texas, in 1852, where he followed agricultural pursuits three years, and in 1885 purchased land and located in Hays county. His death occurred in that county in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson were the parents of eleven children, namely: Celia A., who married R. Williams; Sarah J., now Mrs. Walker; John Y., a resident of Kyle; Joe, of West Texas; Constant D., widow of L. Collier; Azariah B., engaged in the Land Office at San Antonio; William L., of Kyle; Taylor, a rancher at Fort Stockton; Margaret, wife of Thomas Brndlove, of Dripping Springs, Texas, and Mary, wife of B. Davis. Mrs. Stevenson died in November, 1892, at the age of eighty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Walker were married in 1854, and reared a family of nine children, as follows: Annie B., widow of E. Watson and a resident of Burleson county; Walter, deceased at the age of twenty-three years; Eddie, a farmer of Caldwell county; Wellman, engaged in the same occupation in Bastrop county; and Charlie, William, John, Robert E., and

Viola, at home. Mrs. Walker is a member of the Methodist Church, and her husband was a member of the Presbyterian Church.



GALLANT R. DAVIS, a retired farmer of Elgin, Bastrop county, was born in Georgia, April 25, 1829, a son of James L. and Nancy (Floyd) Davis, natives also of that State. The father was a farmer and minister, and, in connection with Parson Trian, organized the first Baptist Church in Texas. He subsequently moved to Limestone county, and his death occurred while on a visit to his daughter, Mrs. Clamp, in Georgetown, March 8, 1879. His wife died in January, 1878. The parents were married July 29, 1823, and lived together fifty-four years, six months and fifteen days. They had eight children—Richard W., the eldest in order of birth; Martha, wife of J. E. Sherrod; Gallant R., our subject; Asena, wife of Mr. Clamp, of Georgetown; Mary, now Mrs. William Stanley; Sarah J., wife of Giles G. Nantz; Emma E., now Mrs. James Demovel, and Keziah H., wife of William Cleveland.

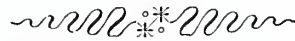
Gallant R. Davis, the subject of this notice, came with his parents to Texas in the fall of 1838, at the age of nine years, locating on New Year's creek. They spent the following three years in Rhodaville, Fayette county, lived near the town of Travis, Anstin county, for a time; purchased and lived on a farm six years in Washington county; spent the next ten years in Anstin county; two years in Milam county; during the years of 1851-'52 was at Round Rock, Williamson county, and then came to Bastrop county. During all these moves Mr. Davis was accompanied by his father. The



former formerly owned a farm eighteen miles north of Bastrop, where he raised a large family of children. In 1887 he came to Elgin, invested his means in town property, which he rents, and also has a good, commodious residence. During the late war Mr. Davis enlisted in Company C, Allen's regiment, in the Trans-Mississippi Department, and served in Arkansas and Louisiana. During the march from this State to Camp Nelson, Arkansas, in August, nearly the entire regiment became sick. After remaining ill for a long time, Mr. Davis received a final discharge, and returned home, but after recovering his health served on detached duty, having been principally engaged in driving beef cattle.

At Round Rock, Williamson county, in 1852, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Emily Pettijohn, a daughter of Andrew and Mary Pettijohn, natives of Indiana and Illinois, respectively. The parents located in Williamson county, Texas, in 1852, but afterward came to Bastrop county, where the father died in 1868. The mother departed this life five days previous to her husband. They were the parents of six children, viz: John, who died while in service in the late war; Emily, now Mrs. Davis; Jacob, who was wounded at the battle of Shiloh, returned home, and died at Rockdale, in 1892; Rachel, deceased in 1879, was the wife of B. T. Middleton, who served as Captain in the Civil war, and died at Rockdale, December 15, 1892; Andrew, also a soldier in the war; and Samuel, a farmer of Erath county, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have had nine children, six now living, as follows: Andrew J., a farmer of Wichita county, Texas; Mary A., wife of Dr. F. Martin, an eminent physician of Kyle, this State; James W., engaged in the lumber

business at Manor; Gallant W., a stock-raiser of Wyoming; Nanny D., wife of Rev. M. T. Martin, a minister of Mississippi, and Dora L., wife of B. J. Gresham, a merchant of Smithville, Bastrop county. Mr. Davis is independent in his political views, affiliates with the Masonic fraternity, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



**H**ENRY H. GILLEY, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Burleson county, Texas, was born at the mouth of the Brazos river in this State, in 1846.

At the age of fifteen, before he had any educational advantages he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in the Second Texas Infantry, with which he went at once to the front, rendezvousing in west Tennessee and north Mississippi, reaching them in time to take part in the battle of Shiloh and the engagement at Corinth. He was in all the subsequent operations to the investment and fall of Vicksburg. The mettle of the boy soldier was tried many times during these few months, but he acquitted him self worthily on all occasions, and more than once received the commendation of his immediate commander. While the Federals were tunnelling under Vicksburg, volunteers were called for upon one occasion in the vicinity of where his company was stationed, for the purpose of attempting to dislodge a party of workmen who were vigorously prosecuting their labors just outside the Confederate breastworks. Young Gilley offered his services, and for four days he and his comrades devoted themselves energetically, and finally with success to the task of routing the Federals. After the fall of Vicksburg, young Gilley came west and again





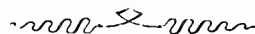
entered the service in the Trans-Mississippi Department, serving in this department until the close of hostilities.

The war over he began freighting between Galveston and interior towns, and was profitably engaged in this for about four years. He then turned his attention to the stock business, buying and driving to Alexandria, Louisiana, then the great cattle market of the Southwest. He followed this for about fifteen years, when he bought his present farm, situated five miles southwest of Caldwell, which he stocked and at once engaged in agricultural pursuits. Since that date he has actively and energetically carried on these two pursuits together. He has about 400 head of cattle, 350 head of sheep and other stock in proportion, and produces the average yield of general farm products, of which cotton and corn are the chief staples. Mr. Gilley's farm is one of the best located places in Burleson county, lying well with respect to water, timber, drainage, market and other conveniences, and is above the average in point of general improvements. His residence, occupying an eminence of more than a hundred feet above the general surroundings, commands a fine view of the farm as well as of the country for several miles around. Mr. Gilley is devoted strictly to his daily pursuits, giving but little attention to public matters. He interests himself in matters of general concern to the farming community, and lends a helping hand to all movements calculated to stimulate industry or in any way benefit the cause of husbandry. Improved methods of agriculture, immigration of desirable settlers, public schools supported by State government, the observance of law, the preservation of order, a fostering of a moral and religious feeling, and the general interest

of society, find in him a ready advocate and willing helper.

January 12, 1866, Mr. Gilley married Miss N. E. Brymer, a daughter of A. R. and Ashtie Brymer and a sister of William Brymer, in whose sketch, which appears in this volume, will be found the facts in reference to Mrs. Gilley's ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Gilley have had nine children, the two eldest of whom were twins and died in infancy. The others are: Henrietta, now deceased; William Edward, John C., Emma, Harold, Maggie and Annie.

The religious connection of the family is with the Methodist Church. Mr. Gilley's father, the Rev. Hays B. Gilley, was for many years an active minister of this church, and was widely known in central and southern Texas. Reference to him will be found in the sketch of Thomas F. Gilley, which appears elsewhere in this volume.



**A**DEN J. WORLEY, of Rockdale, Milam county, is a son of Aden and Mary (Burden) Worley. The great-grandfather of our subject, William Worley, came from Ireland to America, locating in North Carolina. He took part in the struggle for independence, and lived to the age of ninety-five years. The grandfather of our subject, William Worley, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and raised his family in North Carolina. Aden Worley, Sr., was born in that State in 1801, after attaining his manhood moved to Georgia, was there married, and after the birth of his third child removed to Randolph county, Alabama. In 1859 they came to the Lone Star State, stopping for a short time in Panola county, and then located in Upshur county, where

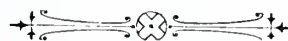


the mother died in 1863 and the father in 1867. They were the parents of eleven children, namely: Nancy, now Mrs. Thomas Weaver, of Upshur county; John W., of Arkansas; America T., now Mrs. Riley, of Wheeler, Upshur county; J. M., of Milam county; Aden J., our subject; Mary M., wife of D. L. Berry, of Milam county; Sarah J., Cynthia A. and Martha J., deceased; and Rebecca T., wife of Samuel Patrick, of Parker county, Texas.

Aden J. Worley was born in Randolph county, Alabama, February 1, 1845, where he passed his boyhood days. In 1859 he came with his parents to Texas. In 1864 he joined the Confederate army, was mustered into service at Fort Jerusha, Louisiana, in Company H, Eighteenth Texas Infantry, a consolidated regiment, and saw immediate action. They were surrounded by a Federal force 15,000 strong, under General Banks, and after a desperate resistance, during which the little band of 500 killed more than they numbered, they were compelled to surrender. Mr. Worley was taken prisoner, and remained at the Picayune Cotton Press prison until July 14, when he was exchanged and returned home. A short time afterward he again joined his command at Monticello, Arkansas, and at Camden witnessed the trial and execution of Captain Grimes for alleged treason. Mr. Worley was paroled at Hempstead. In 1868 he came to Milam county, locating four miles from the present site of Rockdale, where he remained until 1873. In that year he purchased his present farm, ten miles from this city, but in 1892 he moved to Rockdale. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and, socially, is a member of the Masonic and Odd-Fellows orders.

Mr. Worley was married in Upshur county,

Texas, June 20, 1865, to Mary, a daughter of Augustus Bishop. To this union have been born eleven children, viz.: Eliza, now Mrs. P. J. Gillespie, of Rockdale; Martha, wife of J. M. Field, of Milam county; James, at home; Lulu, now Mrs. W. W. Clark, of this county; Aden O., deceased; Ivey, John, Emma, Frank, Ola and George at home. The family are Methodists in their religious belief.



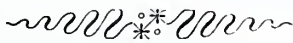
**F**RANK CLEMENT, a farmer and stock-raiser of Milam county, is a son of John and Sarah (Walker) Clement. The first member of this family in America, Pope Clement, came as a stowaway from France, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. The grandfather of our subject, Stephen Clement, was raised in North Carolina, and died in Tennessee. John Clement, the father of our subject, was born and raised in Granville county, North Carolina, but when a young man went to Tennessee. He was married in Dickson county, that State, in 1829, and a short time afterward located in McNairy county, where he died in 1890. He was a well-informed man, took a great interest in politics, voted with the Democratic party, was a prominent secessionist, and a leading worker in the Methodist Church. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Nelson Walker, was a soldier under Jackson in the war of 1812, and was originally from Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Clement had six children: Frank, our subject; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Short, of Jackson, Tennessee; Nancy and Sarah, deceased; Brunette, now Mrs. Jester, of Chester county, Tennessee; and Susan, also of that county. The mother died in 1859, at the age of forty-two



years. The father afterward married a Miss Jester, and they had two children, only one of whom is now living.

Frank Clement was born in McNairy county, Tennessee, October 3, 1831. He was employed as a carpenter in his native State until 1859, and in that year came to Titus county, Texas. Ten years later he located on his present place in Milam county, ten miles west of Rockdale, where he now has 550 acres, 150 acres cultivated. In addition to general farming, he has also given considerable attention to stock-raising. Mr. Clement is independent in his political relations, and, socially, is a Master Mason, a member of Rockdale lodge, also of the Odd-Fellows, K. of H. and the K. L. of H.

In McNairy county, Tennessee, December 20, 1854, he was united in marriage with Martha Bryant. They have had ten children, namely: Lillian B., wife of J. H. Bonds, of Milam county; A. J., a graduate of Vanderbilt College, practiced law in Cameron, Texas, one year, and died of typhoid fever; Frank, of Cameron; Annie, deceased, was a teacher in the public schools; William K., attending the Georgetown University; George C., a law student; Samuel J., attending the Huntsville Normal School; Jack B., Mattie and Jones W. at home.



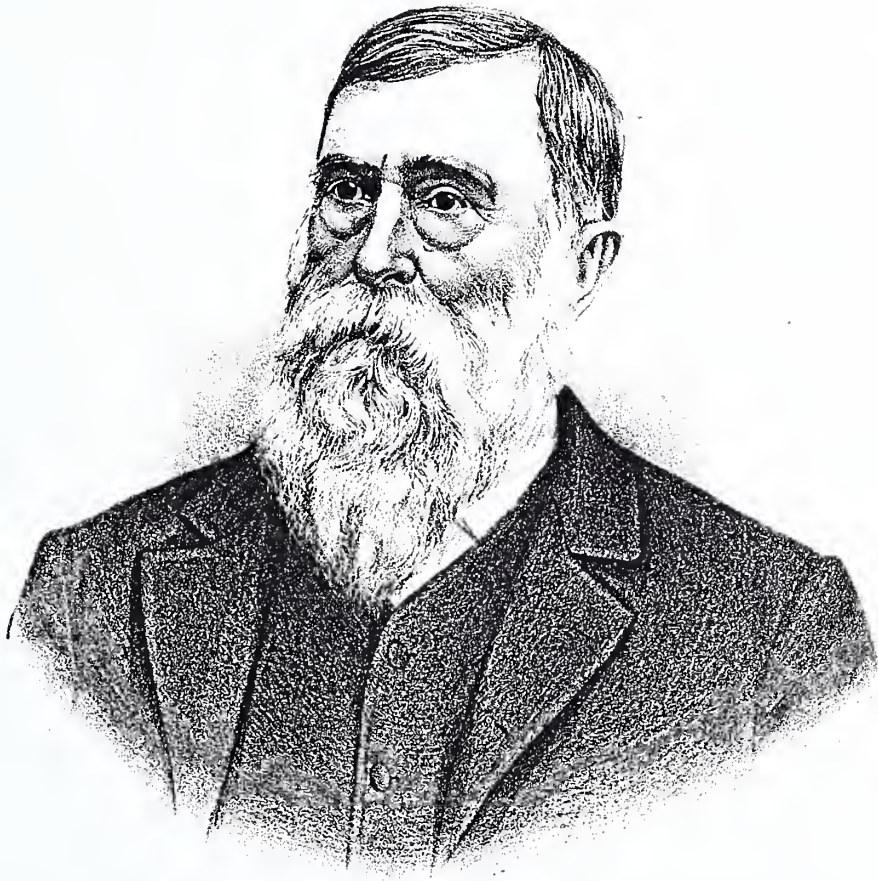
**B** H. YOUNG, a farmer and stock-raiser of Williamson county, was born in DeWitt county, Texas, May 1, 1848, a son of H. R. and Celina W. (Bird) Young. The father was born in Warren county, Mississippi, in 1806, and is said to have been the first male child born in that county. The mother was born in North Carolina, on December 24, 1814. The parents were married in Mis-

issippi, and came to Texas in an early day, when the Indians were still numerous. Mr. Young was wounded in the Indian fight at Pepper's creek, and also took part in many other battles. After locating in DeWitt county, he assisted in the founding of Yorktown, was a leader in his political party, and at one time served as County Judge of Goliad county. His principal occupation was farming and stock-raising, and after his children had left home he came to Williamson county, where he lived with his son. His death occurred on November 4, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Young were the parents of seven children, viz.: Martha, who married George Hubert, who died in the army, and she now resides in Gonzales county; Maggie A., wife of W. R. D. Stockton, a Methodist minister of Belton, Texas; Mary, who was first married to William Clements, and after his death she married Joe Denson, she also is now deceased; Betsey, wife of L. F. Hurt, a farmer of Williamson county; Ann, who married Edd Denson and is now dead; and B. H., our subject.

The last named was taken by his parents to Goliad county when an infant, where his mother died in 1851. In 1855 he was taken to Gonzales county, where he grew to manhood, and was reared to farm life. At the age of eighteen years he found employment in the cattle business, in driving to Shreveport, Louisiana, and Kansas. In 1867 he made his headquarters in Williamson county, but did not permanently locate here until 1869, and in that year bought the land where he now resides. He has since added to his original purchase, and 106 acres of the farm is under a fine state of cultivation, a part of which he rents. Mr. Young is giving special attention to the improvement of his stock, having a premium Percheron horse, a fine animal.







A. C. Brown



His farm and residence are located about one mile from the village of Corn Hill.

Mr. Young was married in 1870 to Miss Evaline Donnell, who was born in this county, August 3, 1855, a daughter of S. W. and Martha (Wilson) Donnell, natives of Tennessee. The parents came to Texas in 1850, where the father died in 1880, and his wife in March, 1873. Our subject and wife have eight children, namely: Nanny L., born April 6, 1872, is the wife of R. N. O'Neal, a farmer of Williamson county; Hattie, born December 5, 1875, is at home; Betty, born January 14, 1878; Annis, February 4, 1883; Maggie, March 16, 1885; Barnet R., January 15, 1887; Virga, July 27, 1889; and Willena, December 11, 1891. Mr. Young takes a leading part in Democratic politics, but never aspires to public office. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**D**R. A. C. ISAACS, a retired physician and a prominent, prosperous farmer of Milan county, was born in Lincoln county, Tennessee, November 16, 1826. His parents, Abraham Y. and Agatha (Burford) Isaacs, were natives of Virginia and Georgia, respectively. They were, however, residents for many years of Tennessee, where their parents were early settlers. The mother died in Tennessee in 1838, aged forty-two, and the father in Texas in 1868, at the age of eighty-four. They belonged to the plain, substantial, farming class of citizens, having sufficient wealth to give their children reasonably good educational advantages; had an appreciation of these opportunities, as well as many of the higher graces of life. They had two sons and seven daughters, all of whom at-

tained maturity, but only three are now living. The older son, Solomon B., was for some years a prominent and successful lawyer of Holly Springs, Mississippi, where he was assassinated in his office about 1840. All the daughters but two are dead, Lucinda McCown and Maria Kincaid, both living in Texas.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native county in Tennessee, spending his boyhood and youth on the home farm and enjoying the benefit of such schools as were in reach, his literary education being obtained mainly at a local academy in Madison county, Alabama, near which he lived. He selected medicine for his profession when about twenty years of age, and at once began reading under Dr. Robert Forbes, of Limestone county, Alabama, with whom young Isaacs spent the greater part of two years. He afterward took a course of lectures at the Louisville (Kentucky) University, and, on completing his studies, settled for practice in Lincoln county, Tennessee, where he was engaged in professional duties between two and three years.

Having married in the meantime, he turned his attention to Texas, which had but shortly before been admitted into the Union, and was offering flattering inducements to energetic and ambitious young men of all professions and business callings. He moved to that State in 1851, settling in Lavaca county, where he invested what means he had in land and at once began the active practice of his profession and the prosecution of his farming interests. He prospered for ten years, both as a physician and farmer, until the outbreak of the late war, when, with the general dissolution of the business interests of the country, not only his planting operations subsided in a considerable measure, but his practice also suffered severely. His ef-

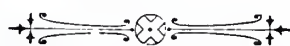


forts, however, were undiminished, and throughout the troublous times of 1861-'65 he devoted his entire energies to relieving the wants of the families of Confederate soldiers and to producing, from the fruitful fields under his supervision, the sinews of war. On account of his professional attainments, his executive ability and his general standing in the community, he was the mainstay of a large number of people in the locality where he lived. But with the enforcement of the proclamation of emancipation and the great drainage of resources necessitated by the war, Dr. Isaacs found himself at the close of hostilities, like thousands of others, stripped of almost all his property and placed practically where he had begun ten years before. Converting what he had into money, he moved in 1866 to Milam county, settling at Cameron, where he began the practice of medicine and continued to reside there, engaged in active professional duties, until 1873. Having in the meantime bought land, he settled on it in the last named year, and since then has given his attention almost exclusively to his farming interests. He is now one of the largest and most successful farmers of Milam county, owning 3,000 acres of land, more than one-third of which is in cultivation, and all of which is susceptible of it, which produces well of the staple products, corn and cotton.

He has always allied himself with the interests and influences favorable to the farming community, and has been recognized as a champion of the rights of the agricultural class in all movements affecting their welfare. He has been active at different times in politics and has been honored with official trusts. He represented Milam county in the fifteenth Legislature—the first general assembly following the date of the adoption

of the present constitution.—and took part in the important legislative proceedings incidental to the inauguration of the present judicial, fiscal and economic system. Up to within a few years Dr. Isaacs always affiliated with the Democratic party and was always loyal to its principles, as enunciated in its platforms and official organs; but he has of late become dissatisfied with the old party, and has elected on several occasions to pursue an independent course with reference to pending issues. In 1892 he was made the nominee of the People's party for the State Senate, and, although defeated, made a good race and won considerable popularity among the people of this section.

Dr. Isaacs is a man of strong personality, accustomed to doing his own thinking and fearless in the expression of his views. His standing in the community where he lives is of the first order, and he has many friends. Even those who differ from him widely in matters of opinion respect him for his devotion to what he believes to be right, and for the courage and earnestness with which he maintains his views.



**W** P. DEVER, proprietor of a livery, feed and sale stable of Georgetown, was born in Texas, June 22, 1833, a son of William Dever, a native of North Carolina. The father left his native State at the age of seventeen years, and in 1824 located on the Brazos river, near the town of Washington, Texas. He was a member of Houston's army, and would have participated in the battle of San Jacinto, but during that time was sent up the river to move all the families east of the Brazos. He was a prominent Indian fighter, took an active part in the Mexican war, as a scout, and was one of a



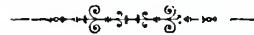


company sent to the relief of General Fannin, the commander of the Alamo, but that city fell before the company could get to their relief. Mr. Dever was married in Texas, to Miss Catherine Earley, a native of Missouri. Two of her brothers served as privates through the Mexican war. Thomas, formerly Sheriff of his county, recently died in California; and John, died of a cancer, in Washington county, Texas, in the '70s. Mr. and Mrs. Dever were the parents of nine children, viz.: Sinia, who was first married to Jerome Parter, and after his death she married J. M. Martin; Nancy, deceased, was the wife of George Kessee; Mary, wife of W. W. Henley, of Georgetown; W. T., our subject; Sarah, deceased at the age of ten years; Fannie, who died at the same age; Nathan, who married Rebecca Foster, and resides at Brenham, Texas; John, deceased when young; and Alice, also deceased. The mother died in 1866, aged sixty-eight years, and the father in 1868, at the age of seventy-one years. Both were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

W. P. Dever, the subject of our sketch, enlisted in the late war in 1861, in Company B, Perry's regiment, Captain Whorton's company, and served under Sydney Johnston, General Bragg and Joseph E. Johnston. He took part as a cavalryman in all engagements of the Army of the Tennessee, at one time had a horse shot under him, but was never wounded or taken prisoner. He never received a furlough during the war, and did valiant service. After the close of the struggle Mr. Dever was engaged in farming and stock-raising in Washington county, Texas, until 1890. In the following year he purchased the livery business of W. W. Dimmitt, since which time he has been extensively and successfully engaged in

that occupation. He also owns a small farm near this city.

Mr. Dever was married in 1866, to Miss Lulu Clay, a daughter of Tacitus Clay, and a relative to Henry Clay. Mrs. Dever's mother, whose maiden name was McCrary, was a relative of the Congressman of the same name. Our subject and wife have had fourteen children, as follows: Mary Beli, widow of Johnston Bell, and has one child, Willie Johnston; Willie Clay, who died in 1889, aged twenty-one years; Tacitus, a farmer of Colorado; Kate, the next in order of birth; Nathan Hendley, engaged in business with his father; Clay, a trader of stock in Washington county; Annie Corine and Pearl, pupils of the Southwestern University; Tula, Inis and Hallie W., attending the public school; Pharis, deceased at the age of six years; Vivia, at home; and one deceased in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Dever are member of the Methodist Church. Our subject stands high as an honorable, honest, worthy and well-to-do citizen.



**A** G. SUTTLES, a prominent farmer of Williamson county, is a son of Micajah and Sallie (Ford) Suttles. The Suttles family were of English descent, and came to the colony of Virginia in a very early day. The grandfather of our subject was living there at the time of the Revolutionary war, in which he served as a private soldier. After the close of the struggle he moved to Georgia, took an active part in the settlement of that State, and led many expeditions against the Indians. At one time he was taken prisoner by the Cherokee tribe, but escaped while his four guards were asleep. This fact is mentioned in a history of that



time. Mr. Suttles finally located in De Kalb county, Georgia, where he resided until death. Micajah Suttles, the father of our subject, was born in Elbert county, that State, where he lived his entire lifetime, dying in 1846, at the age of eighty-four years. He had sixteen children, fourteen of whom grew to years of maturity, and nine are now living, as follows: Harriet, wife of Barnet Geta, of Chambers county, Alabama; Lucinda, now Mrs. Jesse Sewell, and a resident of Coweta county, Georgia; Charlotte, wife of John Roberts, of Fulton county, Georgia; Lennie, who resides with her brother in that county; Rhoda, wife of Willis Roberts, of Paulding county, Georgia; Wiley and J. B., of Fulton county; A. G., the subject of this sketch; and Joseph, of Fulton county, Georgia. The mother died in 1835. Mr. Suttles was the owner of a large estate, and was a Whig in his political views, but never aspired to public office. The Ford family are of French descent, and were also originally from Virginia.

A. G. Suttles was born in De Kalb county, Georgia, March 10, 1830, where he grew to manhood. In the spring of 1865 he came to Williamson county, Texas, where he now owns 980 acres of good land, 200 acres under cultivation. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the late war, in Company E, Captain Wiley's Company, Jones' Regiment, and was first ordered to Pensacola. Two months afterward they went to Virginia, took part in the battle of Harper's Ferry, after which his term of enlistment expired, and he returned home. Mr. Suttles afterward rejoined the army, entering Leyden's Artillery, and did considerable fighting under General Humphrey Marshall at Knoxville, Tennessee; one year later was sent to Virginia, where, under General McCozlin, he participated in

the battles of New River Bridge and Lynchburg; thence to Richmond, and remained there with Lee's army until the surrender, taking part in the engagements at Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Richmond and Petersburg. He surrendered with Lee at Appomattox. Mr. Suttles is a Democrat in his political views; socially, is a Master Mason and a member of the Odd Fellows order; and religiously, affiliates with the Missionary Baptist Church.

In the fall of 1866, in Williamson county, our subject was united in marriage with Mrs. Norvell, *nee* Martha Anderson, who was born in Jackson county, Tennessee, in 1833. She came with her parents to Texas in 1839, settling in Bastrop county. The father, a farmer and stock raiser by occupation, died in the spring of 1842, and the mother departed this life when Mrs. Suttles was eighteen months old. The latter was first married in Bastrop county, in 1850, to Samuel Norvell, who died in Williamson county, Texas, in 1863.



**S** P. STUBBLEFIELD, a farmer of Williamson county, is a son of William and Agnes (Etridge) Stubblefield, of Welsh descent. The father was born and raised in Oglethorpe county, Georgia, was left an orphan at an early age, after which he lived with Stephen Potts. In young manhood he went to Dallas county, Alabama, where he met and married the mother of our subject in 1815. The latter died in 1826, and the father afterward married a Miss Smith, and they then came to Texas, locating near Gaines' Landing, on the Sabine river. A few months afterward they went East, stopping in Mississippi, intending to return to



Alabama, but while there met old acquaintances on the road in Yazoo county, and with others located claims in that county. Mr. Stubblefield died there in 1858. He was one of the most prominent planters in Mississippi, was a Whig in his political views, a Presbyterian in faith, and a man of wide influence. By his first marriage he had six children, viz.: Elizabeth, deceased; Marlin, of Yazoo county, Mississippi; Henry, a farmer of that county; Francis A., deceased; Stephen P., the subject of this sketch; and David, of Yazoo county, Mississippi. To the last union were born nine children,—John, deceased; Sarah, wife of R. H. Griffin, of Colorado, Texas; Calvin, who died in the army; Simon, a resident of the old homestead in Yazoo county; Allen, deceased; Iona, wife of a Mr. Dixon; and Mary, of Yazoo county. The mother of these children died in 1875.

S. P. Stubblefield was born in Dallas county, Alabama, August 13, 1824, and was reared to manhood in Yazoo county, Mississippi. In June, 1846, he enlisted for service in the Mexican war, entering Company A, Jeff Davis' Regiment. He participated in the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista, and was wounded in the right hand at the last named battle, and now draws a pension. His brother Henry was also wounded in the same engagement. Mr. Stubblefield lived in Yazoo county, Mississippi, from 1831 to 1852, during the following eleven years was engaged as overseer on the large plantations along the Mississippi river, in 1863 was obliged to refugee to Columbia company, Arkansas, in 1870 came to Liberty Hill, Texas. After locating here he followed the mercantile business until 1881, and in 1883 moved to his present farm of 170 acres, located on the north fork of the Gabriel, sixteen miles west of Georgetown. Ninety

acres of the farm is under a fine state of cultivation, and the remainder in timber land. He also has a good gin on the place. In his political relations, Mr. Stubblefield affiliates with the Democratic party; socially, is a Master Mason, a member of Liberty Hill Lodge, No. 443; and is a member of the Methodist Church.

In 1850, in Yazoo county; Mississippi, our subject was united in marriage with Eliza Russell. She died in 1852, and in the same year he married Sarah Russell, a sister of his first wife, and they have had eleven children, seven now living,—Clayton, with his father; Marlin, of Williamson county; Fannie Amada, wife of George Lincecum, also of this county; Zelina, wife of W. G. Griffiths, of Williamson county; W. Oscar, of Yazoo county, Mississippi; Elizabeth, wife of L. G. Lincecum, of Williamson county; and Sadie, at home.



**A**LPHEUS S. MASON, a successful farmer of Williamson county, was born in Mecklenburg county, North Carolina, April 27, 1839. The Mason family located in Virginia in early times, and continued to reside in that State until the grandfather of our subject married and moved to North Carolina, making a settlement on the Catawba river. There Colonel C. C. Mason, the father of our subject, was born in 1818. He was married to Margaret Carothers in 1836, and continued his residence in that State until 1850, when the family removed to Tennessee. The following year they came to Texas, and for two years resided in Austin, when a final settlement was then made on the Bagdad prairie. Colonel Mason died there May 5, 1865. He was a man of strong per-





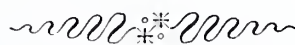
sonality, and did much for the community in which he lived. He was a liberal supporter of the Presbyterian Church, and a member of the Masonic fraternity. Mr. and Mrs. Mason had five children: David, deceased; Alpheus S., our subject; Lon, wife of Dr. A. N. Graham, of Lampasas; John B., deceased; and C. C., of Travis county. The wife and mother died in North Carolina, in 1848, and in 1850 the father married Mary J. Carothers, who still survives. They had seven children, viz.: J. N., a resident of Leander, Texas; Margaret J., wife of J. H. Fanbion, also of that city; Addie B., deceased; Pinekney, deceased; Nancy, deceased; Gussie, deceased; and Belle, wife of Dr. T. H. Loeke, of Leander.

Alpheus T. Mason, the subject of this sketch, has followed merchandising quite extensively in this county, but his chief occupation has been that of farming. In 1866 he located on the site of his present home, where he has 800 acres, 200 acres of which is under a good state of cultivation. In addition to the home tract, he also owns other farms, aggregating 1,000 acres. Mr. Mason answered to the call of his country in 1862, and enlisted as a private in Company A, Morgan's Battalion of Cavalry, and served in the Trans-Mississippi Department. During the last year of the war he was a member of the Quartermaster's Department. He participated in the battles of Pleasant Hill, Yellow Bayou, Mansfield, in Bank's expedition, and saw the lamented General Greene, of Texas, killed. In his political relations, Mr. Mason is identified with the Democratic party. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for a number of years has served as Superintendent of the Sunday-school.

In Williamson county, September 15, 1859, he was united in marriage with Margaret J. Carothers. They had six children, viz.: Clabe S., a farmer of Leander, Texas; Della, wife of L. F. Chapman, a hardware merchant of Georgetown; Thomas, telegraph operator for the Austin & Northwestern Railroad, at Fairland, Texas; Nora, Lou and William, at home. The wife and mother died November 15, 1889. She was a zealous Christian lady, and devoted to her husband and children.

C. C. Mason, a brother of A. S. Mason, and a resident of the same neighborhood, was born February 25, 1847. He was too young to participate in regular service during the late war, but was a member of the State militia. Mr. Mason owns 300 acres of land in this county, 110 acres cultivated, where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

He was married January 1, 1867, to Sarah J., a daughter of M. J. Wells. They have had ten children, namely: Martin J., deceased; James N., engaged as clerk in the general mercantile store of Jesse Humble; and F. Crotsis, S. Zora, C. Carl, E. Fay, Lorenzo, D. Maggie and D. Ernest, at home. The wife and mother died February 9, 1891. She was a member of and an active worker in the Presbyterian Church, and was a woman of many graces of character. Mr. Mason is also a member of that church, and affiliates with the Democratic party.



**W**ILLIAM W. MORRIS, the leading merchant of Corn Hill, Williamson county, was born in Arkansas, November 1, 1856, a son of Rev. Samuel and Virginia (Wade) Morris, the former a native



of Arkansas, and the latter of Alabama. The father was engaged as a Methodist minister many years, and his last charge was in McLennan county. The parents reared a family of four children: William, our subject; Lucy, wife of G. W. Kinchelo, a merchant of Bruceville, Texas; Emily, wife of C. G. Bratton, a merchant of Coosa; and John, a Western Union telegraph operator at Kansas City.

William W. Morris, the subject of this sketch, came with his parents to Texas in 1868, locating first in Cherokee county, where his mother died in 1870. In the same year he went to Hill county, where he attended the common schools, and completed his education at Georgetown. In 1878 Mr. Morris returned to Hill county, where he improved a farm, but in the following fall he sold his place and came to Corn Hill, Williamson county. He continued farming and stock-raising here until 1887, when he embarked in the mercantile trade, and is now the oldest and leading merchant of the place. Since residing in this county he has served as Deputy Sheriff four years.

Mr. Morris was married in the fall of 1878, to Alice King, who was born in Corn Hill, February 17, 1858, a daughter of Judge J. E. King, of Belton, Texas, and a granddaughter of Isaac Bunker. The latter obtained the certificate of the league of land on which Corn Hill is now located, for services rendered the State before annexation. J. E. King married a Miss Bunker, purchased the interest of the remaining heirs, and came in possession of the above mentioned land, where he made a large farm and laid off and named the town. He moved to Salado, Texas, in 1873, to educate his children, and five years later returned to his farm. Since 1890 he has resided in Belton. Mr. King is a public-spirited man, has given land for

churches, colleges, etc., and has served as County Judge and in many other positions.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris have six children: Joseph K., born September 18, 1881; Samuel D., February 24, 1883; W. W., June 18, 1885; Alice S., October 5, 1887; John E., in January, 1889; and Jackson, March 1, 1891. Mr. Morris affiliates with the I. O. O. F., and is a Democrat in his political views, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



ANDREW HAMILTON, a successful farmer of Williamson county, is a son of Ninian and Sarah (Woods) Hamilton. The grandfather our subject, Ninian Hamilton, was a native of Scotland, and came to this country before the Revolutionary war, in which he served as Captain of a company. After the close of the struggle he located in Kentucky, where the father of our subject was born and raised. When a young man the latter went to Missonri, was among the early pioneers of that State, was married in St. Louis county, in 1802, and his death occurred there in 1845. His wife departed this life in 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton were the parents of fifteen children, all of whom are now deceased but the subject of this sketch and one brother, Thoma W., of Rockport, Texas.

Andrew Hamilton was born in St. Louis county, Missonri, February 21, 1827, and remained at home until reaching manhood. In 1853 he located on his present farm of 400 acres in Williamson county, Texas, situated at the head of Dry Brushy creek, four miles west of Leander, where he has 200 acres under good cultivation. Mr. Hamilton is engaged in general farming and stock-raising.



In his political relations, he affiliates with the Democratic party, socially, is a Master Mason, and religiously, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In St. Louis county, Missouri, October 16, 1851, our subject was united in marriage with Elizabeth J. Schilling, a native of Germany, who came to America at the age of twelve years. They have had nine children: Thomas T., of Leander, Texas; Sarah, deceased, was the wife of Thomas C. Gaines; John G., who resides near his father; Louisa, widow of a Mr. Sperlin, and she is now at home; Elizabeth, wife of James Williamson, resides near her father; Christopher C., of Leander; Andrew G., and Emmett at home.



**H**UGH K. McDONALD, one of the pioneer citizens of Bastrop county, was born in North Carolina, February 8, 1816, a son of John McDonald. When about five years of age, our subject accompanied his father to Tennessee, and was raised in Maury and Giles counties, that State. In 1851 he came to Texas, and for the following sixteen years was engaged in running a ferry, saw and gristmill at Bastrop. During the Civil war he was not engaged in active service, but spent most of the time in buying cattle, etc., for the Confederate army. After the close of the struggle Mr. McDonald was exclusively engaged in the sawmilling industry for some time. He sold his ferry in 1867, his mill in 1871, and in 1868 came to his present location, on Hill's Prairie, where he has 500 acres of land. Mr. McDonald never sought public preferment at the hands of the people, although he was for many years one of the city fathers of Bastrop.

In 1842 he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth A. Gill, a daughter of Thomas

and Sallie (Williams) Gill, pioneer settlers of Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald had seven children, viz.: J. T., the eldest in order of birth; Mary C., wife of H. W. Brown, of Bastrop county; James K. P., deceased; Samuel H., of this county; Hugh K.; and two who died when small. The wife and mother died in 1881, having been a member of the Christian Church. Mr. McDonald affiliated with Gamble Lodge, No. 244, and was also a member of Bastrop Chapter, No. 95. He departed this life March 16, 1893, at the age of seventy-seven.

John T. McDonald, a son of the above, and a farmer and stockman of Bastrop county, was born in Marshall county, Mississippi, December 6, 1843. He received his education in the schools of this city. During the late war he was a member of Company F, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, under Captain E. P. Petty, and in the regiment commanded first by Colonel Allen and afterward by Colonel G. W. Jones. He served in the Trans-Mississippi Department, participated in the battle of Milliken's Bend, Louisiana, and many skirmishes, and was discharged at Hempstead.

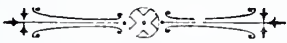
After returning home Mr. McDonald was engaged with his father in the ferry and sawmill, later followed farming, and in 1870 embarked in the mercantile business at Hill's Prairie. He continued that occupation fifteen years. In 1887 he came to his present farm of 215 acres, 130 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation. In 1890 Mr. McDonald was elected County Commissioner of Precinct No. 2, Bastrop, and re-elected in 1892 by the people of the same precinct.

He was married in 1868, to Miss Ella P. Petty, a daughter of Captain E. P. and Margaret E. (Pinner) Petty. The parents removed from Tennessee to Texas in 1851, lo-





eating in Bastrop county, where the father was a prominent attorney. Before the war he was engaged in the practice of the legal profession with ex-Congressman G. W. Jones. Captain Petty was killed at the battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, in 1864. His widow now resides with her son, Van A. Petty, of Hardin county, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Petty had four children: Ella P., wife of our subject; Cyr Frank, of Louisiana; Don G., a resident of Boyce, Louisiana; and Van A. The sons are engaged in the sawmill business in this State and Louisiana. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald have had eight children, viz.: Petty, W. T. (deceased), Idel, Mary E., Hugh A., Frank G., James E., and one deceased in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald are members of the Christian Church, and the former affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Gamble Lodge, No. 244, and Bastrop Chapter, No. 95.



**W**ILLIAM BRYMER, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Burleson county, Texas, residing near Hookerville, was born in Bradley county, Tennessee, in 1838. His father, A. R. Brymer, also a native of that State, was born in 1813, and was a son of William Brymer, who was likewise born there in 1774, where he died at the age of seventy-five. The latter was the father of seven children: John; A. R.; William; Joseph; Elizabeth, who married John Hooper; Elvina, who became the wife of a Mr. Stubblefield; and James. A. R. Brymer, father of the subject of this sketch, was reared in Tennessee and was a farmer by occupation. In 1847 he removed to Texas and settled, first, in Titus county, where he made one crop, and afterward in Burleson county, locating in the vicinity of Hookerville, where he resided until his death. He was a success-

ful man, and left at his death a small estate to his children. He filled the office of County Commissioner in Burleson county for a number of years, and made an honest, capable and faithful official. In politics he was a Democrat, and for the greater part of his life was a member of the Baptist Church. His wife's maiden name was Vashti Hopkins. She died after the family moved to Burleson county, having been for many years a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and a pious, good woman. The children of this worthy couple were: Sarah Caroline, who married N. M. Thornton; Rhoda, who became the wife of J. W. Browder; Dialtha, married Jack Albright; William; John; and Mary, wife of Mr. Bowdenhammer, of Burnet county, Texas; Ellen, who married Jim Siddal; Tennessee, who married Dr. V. P. Armstrong, of Louisville, Kentucky.

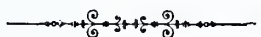
William Brymer, the subject proper of this sketch, was a lad of eight when his parents moved to Burleson county, and his youth was passed on a farm in this county. For a few years after growing up he was engaged in freighting from Houston to interior points in central and northern Texas, going as far as Fort Worth, which was then one of the frontier towns of the State. But his chief pursuits in earlier as well as in later life, were farming and stock-raising. At the beginning of the late war, he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Company A, Seventeenth Texas Infantry, with which he served, mainly in the Trans-Mississippi Department, in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas, and took part in most of the larger battles that were fought in those States, among which were the engagements incidental to Banks' Red river campaign, except the fight at Jenkins' Ferry, where, on account of temporary disability, he was serving on detail.



On the close of the war, Mr. Brymer returned home and engaged in farming. He began by renting land, but, as soon as he was able, he purchased a small tract, consisting of 100 acres, to which he has added from time to time until his holdings now amount to 850 acres, about 100 acres of which is under cultivation. Mr. Brymer gives some attention to stock-raising, and is an industrious, thrifty and well-to-do farmer.

In 1861 he married Miss Frances Lucas, a daughter of the Rev. William Lucas, a well-known and highly-respected Baptist minister of Burleson county. They had four children: William E., Eula Lee; Leonard, deceased, and Fannie. The devoted wife and mother died in 1875, followed by the regret of all who knew her, her many estimable qualities having gained for her universal respect and affection. In 1877 Mr. Brymer was married to Miss Frances Hilliard, daughter of John Hilliard, of Trinity county, east Texas. The children of this marriage are: Wade, Mabel, Bertie, Ethel, Grace, Garnet, Myra and Dudley P.

Mr. Brymer is a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Missionary Baptist Church. He is deeply interested in the welfare of his community, and is prompt to aid any measure tending to its advancement, either materially or morally.



**B**ROOK C. DUVAL, a farmer of Bastrop county, was born in Robinson county, Tennessee, December 1, 1848, a son of James C. and Mary R. (Wilkins) Duval. The Duval family were among the very early settlers of Virginia, where the father of our subject was born. He was a graduate of Lexington Medical College, of

Lexington, Kentucky, and immediately began practice in Tennessee, where his father had moved when a boy. In December, 1855, Mr. Duval came to Bastrop, Texas, where he abandoned the practice of medicine and engaged in farming and stock-raising. He continued the latter occupation until death, which occurred in 1888, at the age of seventy years. During the Civil war, Mr. Duval espoused the cause of the South, and in the early part of that struggle joined the Texas State troops, where he served until the war closed. Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Duval, all lived to years of maturity: Mary A., wife of C. L. Morgan, of Lampasas, Texas; Brook C., our subject; Melvina, wife of W. T. Higgins, of Bastrop; Bettie H., who married James H. Robinson, of Corsicana; Annie L., of Bastrop; America, wife of John Carroll, of Hubbard City; and Wilkins and Ella, of Bastrop. Mrs. Duval died in 1891, at the age of sixty-three years. She was a member of the Christian Church for many years, and always took an active interest in church affairs.

Brook C. Duval, the subject of this sketch, attended the schools of Bastrop, and at the age of nineteen years entered Baylor University, of Waco, graduating at that institution in 1869. Since that time he has been engaged in farming on his father's farm, and he now cultivates 300 acres of Colorado river bottom land. He gives special attention to the raising of cotton and corn.

In 1881 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary B. Higgins, who was born in Bastrop, Texas, in 1861, a daughter of Jacob C. Higgins. Mr. and Mrs. Duval have had three children, only the youngest of whom is now living, Hugh H., born March 1, 1884. Our subject and wife are members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Duval takes



an active interest in the political issues of the day, is a staunch Democrat, is an honored and respected citizen, and has been a consistent Christian from childhood.



**W** T. STARNES, Justice of the Peace of Georgetown, was born in Franklin county, Tennessee, November 19, 1849, a son of Benjamin C. and Temperance J. (Knight) Starnes, who were born, reared and married in that State. The father, a farmer by occupation, was a soldier under General Scott in the Mexican war, served as a private twelve months, and was in many of the leading battles under that general. While in the army Mr. Starnes contracted a disease from which he died in 1857, aged thirty-four years. He had been a member of the Methodist Church for many years. Mrs. Starnes is still living, aged sixty-one years. She came to Texas in 1882, and has been a resident of Georgetown since 1887. She has been a member of the Methodist Church since sixteen years of age, and her life has reflected the power and beauty of a Christian character in relation to her family, the church and the different communities in which she has lived. Mr. and Mrs. Starnes had five children, three of whom died in infancy. One son, John A., is engaged in the grain and feed business in Georgetown.

W. T. Starnes followed farming in Tennessee until twenty-one years of age, when he located on a farm in Travis county, Texas. Four years later he returned to Tennessee, and took charge of his grandfather's farm, Benjamin B. Knight, eighteen months after which he located on a farm in Williamson county, Texas. In 1887 Mr. Starnes began reading law under W. O. Baker, of this city,

was admitted to the bar in July, 1888, after which he immediately began the practice of his chosen profession. In November of that year, he was elected Justice of the Peace, re-elected in 1890, and again in 1892.

In 1884 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Ray, a daughter of Ezekiel M. Ray, a farmer living south of San Gabriel. To this union have been born four children: Calvin Ray, William Lovett, Mert H. and Mary Beulah. Mr. and Mrs. Starnes are members of the Methodist Church. The former is also Junior Warden of the Masonic order, and Past Grand of the I. O. O. F. He takes an active interest in the Democratic party, and is numbered among the highly esteemed and valued citizens of the county. Since coming to this county Mr. Starnes has been identified with its development and progress, and is now one of its prominent and prosperous citizens.



**J**OSEPH W. ROBERTSON, an attorney, a member of the firm of Makemson & Robertson, of Georgetown, and a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee, was born in Roane county, Tennessee, October 6, 1849. His parents were Dr. James R. and Mary A. (Hunt) Robertson, who were born, reared and married in Washington county, Tennessee. The father was a physician and a local minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He had an extensive practice in Roane county, Tennessee, for many years, and was well-known and highly respected in several counties in that portion of the State. As a minister he did much good, having been not only talented, but was a man of signal devotion and piety. He was a man of intellectual force, pure life,





and exerted a wide influence for good wherever he was known. Mr. Robertson died April 13, 1861, the day Fort Sumter was bombarded, aged fifty-one years. His wife, born November 1, 1814, is still an honored resident of Taylor, Texas. She has been a member of the church for nearly half a century, and with eyes undimmed and voice unbroken, she still remains a working member now as in former years. They were the parents of eight children: Colonel John W. Robertson, formerly an attorney of Austin, died June 30, 1892, aged fifty-one years; he was a member of the Presbyterian Church; his wife now resides in Randolph county, Missouri; Maggie T., who died in Johnson county, Missouri, in 1879, was the wife of George W. Webster; she was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Joseph W., our subject, was the next in order of birth; James H. is an attorney practicing in this State, but at present is Judge of the District Court; has held the office of District Attorney four consecutive terms; he married Miss Susie Townsend, of Austin, Texas; Nannie E., wife of Daniel Moody, of Taylor, Texas, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; William F., an attorney of that city, married Miss Anna Dowling; Mary R., is married and resides in Austin, Texas; she also is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Joseph W. Robertson, the subject of this sketch, attended the country schools of Tennessee, and also an academy at Sweetwater, that State. After leaving school he began the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in 1872, and immediately began practice in Sweetwater. In 1884 he came to Williamson county, Texas, and in June, 1886, was appointed to fill the unexpired term as County Attorney, having been elected to the

same office in the fall of that year. He held that position until November, 1888, since which time he has attended to his profession. Mr. Robertson is a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee for the Twentieth Senatorial district. In 1890 he entered into partnership with Colonel W. K. Makemson in the practice of law. Mr. Robertson is a member of the Methodist Church South, of the Masonic order, and takes an active interest in politics and the public welfare generally.

He was married January 7, 1875, to Miss Amelia E. Spillman, of Monroe county, Tennessee. Her death occurred in Georgetown, Texas, October 24, 1888, at the age of thirty-three years. She had been a devout member of the Methodist Church South for many years. Our subject is one of the leading attorneys of the county, has worked his own way through life, is a faithful student, well read, and is a member of a leading law firm of this portion of the State. He deserves much credit for the position he has reached in his profession. Among the attorneys of the State who possess business ability, energy, integrity, enterprise and good knowledge of his profession, Mr. Robertson well merits a place.



**C**APTAIN WILLIAM A. YOUNG, one of the leading farmers of Bastrop county, was born in Winchester, Franklin county, Tennessee, December 25, 1831, a son of James W. and Isabella (Trigg) Young, natives of Loudoun county, Virginia, and Lexington, Kentucky. They were married in Tennessee. The father was a slave-owner and farmer in that State, and his death occurred in Texas, in 1885. His



wife departed this life in 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Young had twelve children, all but two of whom lived to years of maturity, and three still survive—W. A., our subject; Mark H., and Josephine, wife of Mat Anderson, of Bastrop county.

William A. Young was educated principally in Winchester, Tennessee, and commenced life for himself at the age of twenty-one years, as a merchant in that city. At the breaking out of the late war he was engaged in the wholesale and retail grocery business at Larkensville, Alabama. Espousing the cause of the South, he joined Company K, Fourth Tennessee Cavalry, May 9, 1862, entering as a private. He took part in the battles of Pine mountain and Richmond, was wounded in the fleshy part of the back of the head in a skirmish at Flat Rock, and was forced to abstain from active service for a month. Mr. Young next took part in the raid after General Straight through Alabama and Georgia, and by a little strategy 450 Confederates, under General Forrest, captured 2,200 United States soldiers. For meritorious conduct Mr. Young was promoted to First Lieutenant of Company K. After arriving in Rome, Georgia, General Forrest allowed his tired and sleepy soldiers only twenty-four hours' rest, when he mounted and started on a raid through west Tennessee, and they took part in the battles of Jackson, Humboldt, etc. At Parker's Roads General Forrest suffered defeat, and the next engagement of importance was Chickamanga, where our subject was wounded on Monday, the last day of the battle, on account of which he was forced to the rear, also spending a time in the hospital. One month later he rejoined his command at Knoxville, and the Fourth Tennessee was then transferred to Gabriel's Brigade. They then took part in

the siege of Knoxville, next fought General Burnside at Dandridge, where Captain Young was wounded for the third time, and thus was forced from his command for eight months. During the absence of the Captain from his company, the regiment was reorganized in Virginia, under General Johnston, but after returning from General Hood's disastrous raid through Tennessee, Lieutenant Young was elected Captain of his company. The last battle in which Captain Young participated was on the Danville road in Virginia. The battle waxed hot, the Confederates and Federals mixing in a hand-to-hand encounter. Captain Young's right hand was still in a sling, he being obliged to use his left in guiding his horse and to fire his pistol, yet in that condition he managed to fire twelve rounds from his revolver. He was finally obliged to beat a hasty retreat, and would undoubtedly have been killed but for the prompt action of a negro woman, who opened the gate and gave him access to the barn, where he fired at every bluecoat that presented himself, until the appearance of General Johnston's infantry. The latter put to flight the Federal troops, and released the cavalry, who had been for some time in one of the most stubbornly contested skirmishes. Gabriel's Brigade was then returned to Charlotte, North Carolina, and were made the special escort of President Davis and the special train containing Mrs. Davis, Bragg, Lubbock and Benjamin to Washington. While crossing the river General Gabriel informed President Davis that General Johnston had surrendered the army. The gold and silver was in whisky barrels and boxes, the gold containing from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per box. All was emptied on the ground, and a division was intended and partly made, when General Brown's Brigade of United States



troops came across the river and took charge of the prisoners, as well as the money. Captain Young had received \$60 in gold and \$25 in silver for his services, and just at the time when General Brown's troops came he placed \$5 more in his pockets, and thinks he could easily have obtained all he could carry. There were fifteen wagons (with from four to six mules attached) filled with gold and silver, and all lying on the ground. The prisoners were finally taken to the city and discharged, and three days later the officers, numbering 100 in all, placed themselves under the direct order of General Gabriel, and traveled to Tennessee, where they separated. Captain Young finally reached home, after many escapes from death from bushwhacking parties still in the country. He then returned to the place of surrender, as the United States officer in command had signified his willingness to turn over all the horses captured and retained that could be identified by the Captain or officers in command of the company at the time of the surrender. Captain Young recognized sixty head, for which he received protection papers, and returned them to the men of his company. For this act he received many heartfelt blessings from men, as well as their families.

After the war was fully over our subject returned to Alabama, where he remained until 1867, and in that year came on horseback from Enterprise, Mississippi, to Bastrop county, Texas, landing August 23, 1867. At that time he had a horse, bridle, saddle and \$5 in money. He immediately engaged in agricultural pursuits on the place where he still resides, a part of which belonged to his wife. Captain Young now owns 130 acres, with 100 acres in pasture and 100 acres of timber land. In December, 1868,

he was married to Mrs. O. E. Trigg, a daughter of David Arnett, of Franklin county, Tennessee. By her first marriage Mrs. Young had five children—Mary A., now Mrs. W. L. Morris; Della B., wife of James H. Craft; Bettie, wife of Robert Price; Nellie, now Mrs. C. Jenkins, and William A. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have had four children, only one now living—John T., who was married in 1887, to Miss Annie Pierce, a native of this county. Our subject and wife are members of the Missionary Baptist Church. Mr. Young also affiliates with the A. F. & A. M., Gamble Lodge, No. 491, and Bastrop Chapter, No. 95.



**CAPTAIN J. C. S. MORROW**, a commercial traveler of Georgetown, was born in Woodford county, Kentucky, November 20, 1839, a son of Preston B. and Elizabeth (Hall) Morrow, natives also of Kentucky. The father was formerly a merchant at Versailles, that State, and at the time of his death was employed as a trader. He served as Police Judge for many years, having been first appointed by the Federal authorities and afterward elected to the office; was one of twenty in his county of uncompromising Union proclivities; and, although a pro-slavery man, approved the emancipation proclamation and was a Henry Clay Whig. He was a conscientious Christian, and a Ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church for many years. Mr. Morrow was three times married, first to the mother of our subject, next to Miss Davis, who lived but a few months after her marriage, and his third wife survived him about two years. His death occurred February 1, 1875, at the age of sixty-six years, and his first wife died in 1848,





aged about twenty-seven years. They were the parents of five children, namely: Bell, wife of Otto W. Harding, of Louisville, Kentucky; J. C. S., our subject; Jennie, unmarried, and residing with her uncle, Dr. Stewart, Superintendent of the Feeble Mind Institute; Samuel, deceased in 1851, at the age of twenty-one years; and Moses H., who died at the age of ten years.

Captain J. C. S. Morrow, was educated in the public schools of Versailles, where he was afterward employed as a clerk until 1857. He was engaged at work in Frankfort, Kentucky, one year, served as bookkeeper in the dry goods store of Richard Knott at Louisville, that State, two years, and then, with eight young men, clerks and bookkeepers by occupation, he left that city on the boat, Paytona, on his twentieth birthday, for Texas, via New Orleans. Five of the party landed at Galveston, Texas, and the remaining three, Robert and David Vance and our subject, reached Indianola, December 15, 1859. Mr. Morrow stopped with an old friend of his father, Colonel Slaughter, at Guadalupe for a time, and February 14, 1860, landed in Georgetown, Williamson county. A week later he was employed by the District Clerk, receiving \$60 in gold for one month's work, was engaged as bookkeeper for Josiah Taylor one month, and was then engaged in the same capacity with Sampson & Hendricks, proprietors of the largest store in Austin, one year. In July, 1861, Mr. Morrow enlisted for the late war, in a company raised by Captain Mullen, of which he was made Lieutenant Colonel, but afterward resigned his position. During his first two months he was in the State service, as Orderly Sergeant, soon afterward was elected First Lieutenant, and while camping below Harrisburg was taken sick. After much persuasion he was induced

to return to Georgetown, but soon afterward his regiment was requested to report at Little Rock, Arkansas, and he then went a day ahead of his company to that city. They were the only organized regiment in the army when General Price crossed the river. They took part in the battle of Searcey, where they lost only three out of 100 men, and the enemy lost sixty-four men, and their next fight was at Cotton Plant. After the first engagement our subject was elected Captain of his company. He served in Arkansas and Louisiana, and their last battle was at Yellow Bayou. They disbanded where Calvert now stands, and our subject missed only one battle out of the thirty-seven engagements.


After the close of the struggle his possessions consisted of a horse, saddle and bridle, and he then went to visit his father and relatives in Kentucky. He next purchased \$14,000 worth of goods of different kinds, on 60, 80, 120 and 160 days' credit, associated himself with Frank L. Price, and the firm of Morrow & Price opened the first stock of goods in this county. In 1870 they erected the first saw mill in the county, also purchased 2,000 acres of land, but after five years and one month they dissolved partnership, having made during that time about \$35,000. Mr. Morrow's expenses at the mill amounted to \$23 a day, and he employed about twenty-five men. In 1873 he sold the mill, and the same year engaged in the mercantile business, buying the structure across from where the post-office now stands. In 1876, the railroad having reached Round Rock, he removed the store to that city; in 1878 moved his family to his place on Galveston bay; but the following year on account of sickness came again to Galveston. Since that time he has traveled for W. D. Cleveland, a wholesale grocer and cotton dealer of Houston. Mr.



Morrow was President of the Board of Trustees of the Georgetown College, and also secured the location and worked two years on the Southwestern University of Georgetown. At the meeting of the Board of Trustees at Galveston, after having previously elected Rev. F. A. Mood, Regent, they accepted the bid made by the citizens of Georgetown and Williamson county, tendering them the Georgetown College building and grounds, and a subscription list of \$100,000. This action located the Southwestern University at Georgetown. Our subject has been connected with the different enterprises of the town, and was also one of the building committee.

He was married August 1, 1866, to Miss Nannie E. Houston, a daughter of General Samuel Houston. Mrs. Morrow was one of eight children, namely: Samuel, married Miss Lucy Anderson, now deceased; Nannie, wife of our subject; Maggie, widow of W. L. Williams; Mary W., widow of J. C. Morson; Nettie P., wife of W. L. Bringham; Colonel A. J. Houston, who first married Miss Carrie Parnell, and afterward Miss Gorde; William R.; and Temple Houston, who is married. Mr. and Mrs. Morrow have had six children, Maggie Houston, wife of Robert A. John; Emily Preston, who died January 3, 1892, aged twenty-three years, was the wife of D. E. Decker, and they had one child, Stiles Morrow; Jeunie Bell; Preston Perry, at work in the printing office of the Georgetown Sun; Temple and Beth. Mr. and Mrs. Morrow are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The former also affiliates with the Blue Lodge and Chapter, has held the office of Worthy Master in the Blue Lodge two years, and was a delegate to the Grand Lodge seven or eight times. Captain Morrow has always been well to the front in everything of a public nature, and his position, influence

and ability have ever been at the service of the community when her best interests are involved. As a man and citizen he is held in high esteem for his strict integrity and sterling qualities of head and heart. He possesses good business ability, and that enterprising spirit which overcomes obstacles, and he can truly be styled a self-made man.

 **W** T. GOODMAN, a prominent and influential farmer of Bastrop county, was born in Wilchil, England, April 11, 1852. In 1853 he was brought by his parents to America, landing in New York, but immediately proceeded to Boone county, Illinois. Six years later the family located in Austin, Travis county, Texas, where they remained until the close of the late war, and the father then purchased 1,000 acres of land in Bastrop county, in the Colorado river valley, three miles above Bastrop, where our subject grew to manhood. The father died in 1887. He was a plumber and painter by trade, but after locating in this county, gave his attention entirely to farming. The mother still survives, aged over sixty years. They were the parents of nine children, seven now living: Eliza, at home; W. E., engaged in business with his brother; W. T., our subject; Mary J., at home; Annie M., widow of George Fink; Fannie D., wife of D. Fitzwilliams, a farmer of Bastrop county; and Virginia L., at home. The family are members of the Episcopal Church, and are Democratic in their political views.

In 1880, in company with his brother, W. E., our subject purchased 1,200 acres of land adjoining the old homestead, 400 acres of which is now under a fine state of cultivation. They have eleven tenement houses on the







*W. F. Wells.*



*Mary E. Wells*





place, and rent about one-half of the farm. The old homestead is farmed in the same way. Mr. Goodman and his brother have never married, and reside with their mother.



**W**AYMAN F. WELLS, deceased.—In portraying the lives of the pioneers of Texas, the heroes of San Jacinto and the first settlers of Bastrop and Travis counties, no name is more worthy of mention than that of the subject of this sketch. In looking over the now thickly populated and finely cultivated country it is difficult for one to imagine what great changes have taken place during the active lifetime of as early a resident as Mr. Wells.

In 1826 Mr. Wells, then a lad of eleven years, accompanied his father's family from their home in Alabama to this new and wild country, at that time belonging to Mexico. There were then but few small civilized settlements in what is now the great State of Texas, one of which was situated in what is now Fayette county. With this last settlement the Wells family cast their lot during the first year. The next year, however, they pushed their way forward to the frontier, until they came to what is now Bastrop county, which locality was then principally inhabited by Indians and wild animals, the Wells family being among the first settlers, the mother and sisters of Mr. Wells being the first white women that had ever ventured as far north on Texas soil. Amidst these surroundings the youth of Mr. Wells was passed, his time being occupied in assisting his father in opening up the frontier farm and in caring for the stock. The farm was situated on what has since been known as Wells' Pyramid, fifteen miles from where

the city of Bastrop now stands. For some years Mr. Wells' life was spent much like that of other boys of his age, but in those days boys matured to man's estate early, and, being the oldest son, many of the cares of the farm and stock devolved on him, thus materially strengthening his independence and natural firmness of character.

This sort of life continued without interruption until the year 1835, when the oppression and tyranny of the Mexican government became so strongly felt that the settlers resolved to bear their burdens no longer, and war was declared. Mr. Wells was among the first to join the army, which was composed of as brave men as could be found on the globe. On account of his familiarity with the country Mr. Wells was selected by his commander as a spy, and through his efforts the army was enabled to secure much important information of the movements and number of the enemy. He participated in the celebrated battles and defeats at San Antonio and Goliad, and followed the fortunes of the Texas army until its reorganization under General Sam Houston, when it was resolved to make a last resistance. Accordingly, on April 21, 1836, the battle of San Jacinto was fought, when a little army of 783 brave men, poorly equipped, scantily clothed and half starved, marched up, and in less than half an hour (eighteen minutes, says Houston in his report), crushed to atoms an army of 1,500 men, splendidly accoutered, well fed and ably generated by Santa Ana. This is little short of marvelous, but these men were each a Hercules; their war cry was, "Remember the Alamo," and ten thousand men could not have daunted their courage. They were fighting for their lives and those of their loved ones, as well as avenging the death of those who had been murdered by the



Mexicans. This little army was made up of such men as Mr. Wells, and they followed their leader, General Houston, with no thought other than victory. It is such men that gained for Texas her independence and made her a Republic. It is such men as these that have made Texas the greatest State in the Union which constitutes the grandest nation on the face of the earth, and the posterity of these men will look back over the history of Texas with pride in the knowledge that their forefathers were the ones who so nobly fought and bled that they might lay the foundation of a commonwealth of peaceful and happy homes, which their posterity now enjoy. Too much cannot be said in honor of the veterans of San Jacinto. They will live in the memory of their posterity as well as in that of the newer comers, who are enabled to enjoy the fruits of their courage and valor.

Besides serving in the Texas and Mexican wars, Mr. Wells subsequently took an active part in all the Indian wars, and his extensive knowledge of the frontier aided the settlers materially in keeping the savages at bay.

The early record of his life having been omitted, it is now inserted. Mr. Wells was born in Lincoln county, Tennessee, May 11, 1815, and was the oldest son of Martin and Sally (Boyd) Wells, both natives of the same State and county. When he was two years of age his parents removed to Marengo county, Alabama, where his father followed agricultural pursuits until the latter emigrated to Texas in 1826. As previously stated, Wayman lived at home with his father until the outbreak of the Texas and Mexican war, which he entered at the age of nineteen. After the war Wayman returned home, where, during the same year, 1836, his father died, leaving the care of the family

and farm to him. The family consisted of five sons and three daughters, two daughters being then married.

He efficiently continued the management of the homestead until 1855, at which time he removed to Travis county. He there first purchased 1,800 acres on Walnut creek, to which he afterward added 160 acres more, and subsequently bought 175 acres of timber land. He was here extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising until his death. Besides his large landed estate and extensive stock business Mr. Wells owned numerous slaves, of which latter property he was deprived through the result of the late war. Not being discouraged by the loss of his property, however, he pushed on, and being a shrewd trader he continued to increase the value of his property, and at the time of his death was considered one of the wealthy men of his section of Texas.

March 4, 1848, Mr. Wells was married to Miss Mary E. Bacon, native of Tennessee, born in Washington county, October 30, 1817. Her parents, Thomas and Julia Ann (Harderman) Bacon, were both natives of the same county as herself, where they were married, and whence they emigrated, in 1835, to Texas. They first settled in San Augustine county, but in 1839 removed to Wells prairie, Bastrop county, and afterward to Travis county, where Mr. Bacon died in 1851, and Mrs. Bacon in 1859.

Were but simple justice to be done to the memory of the subject of this review, it would be most consonant that more particular attention be directed to those noble characteristics which were a dominating power in his life and which animated his every action during the long years which were a power for good to the extent of their duration. He maintained a lively interest in all that



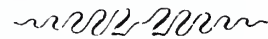
tended to conserve the welfare and advancement of the community in which he lived and he contributed liberally to public institutions of all denominations and his benevolence was as unstinted as it was unostentatious. He was particularly concerned in the providing of educational facilities for the youth of the State, and contributed largely to the building of the Southwestern University of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Georgetown, and the Baptist High School at Walnut Creek. All public enterprises found in him a ready friend. He was one of the Board of Trustees of the State Insane Asylum, under Governor Lubbock, and simultaneously served as County Commissioner. He had ever a responsive recognition of the sufferings of the fatherless and the widow and was never known to refuse the extending of a helping hand. A man cast in the finer mold, one who dignified humanity and made the world better for his having lived, there was in his death a consistent consummation which can but rob the grave of its victory and death of its sting.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells had nine children, six of whom lived to be grown and five of whom still survive: Amanda, wife of George La Rue; Sally Boyd died aged seventeen; Julia Ann died aged four; David I. and Martin Thomas died in infancy; Peter C., of Elgin, Bastrop county, married Katie Walling and they have five children; George Henry married Annie Anderson and resides in El Paso, Texas; J. M.; and Wayman Thomas.

Mrs. Wells is a lady of strong force of character and was well fitted by nature and experience to be a helpmate for a man making a frontier home. She dispensed hospitality with a cheerful hand to friends and strangers alike, in true Texas style, and in a way known only to the true Texas frontier

families. She has survived her husband, and now, at the age of seventy-six, retains in a remarkable degree the vigor of her youth. She is a devoted member of the Baptist Church and interested in all good works.

After a long, active and useful life in Texas, Mr. Wells was called to his last home, February 25, 1878, but before his death, he espoused the cause of Christ and died with a full conviction that he would be saved and meet his loved ones in that place which knows no parting. He was deeply mourned by his loving family and a large circle of friends. His wife lost a loving and tender husband, his children an indulgent father, and the community a generous, charitable citizen. He was identified fraternally with the A. F. & A. M., under whose auspices his funeral services were conducted.



**S** B. PURCELL, a prominent farmer and citizen of Williamson county, is a son of Benjamin and Mary (Smalley) Purcell. The father was born and raised on the Wabash river, in Indiana, where he was first married. To that union was born seven children. The wife and mother died, and previous to that time Mr. Purcell had moved to near Springfield, Illinois. While there he was again married, but this wife lived only a short time. He afterward married the mother of our subject, and they had ten children, namely: B. S., of Lee county, Texas; S. B., our subject; A. L., who was a member of Waul's legion, infantry, died of disease in 1863, at Holly Springs, Mississippi, and his widow, *nee* Rachel Lemmel, now resides in Medina county, Texas; P. R., of Burnet county; Sarah, wife of John Bell, of Fayette county; Daniel E., of Burnet county; Re-





becca, deceased, was the wife of James Holt, of Lavaca county; Calvin, deceased; and Noah, of Williamson county. The family lived in Illinois until 1846, and in the fall of that year started to Texas, crossing Red river January 1, 1847. They located in Fayette county, where the father died in 1867, and the mother departed this life in Burnet county, in August, 1890. The former was a farmer by occupation, was quiet and reserved, a member of the Primitive Baptist Church, and was a very religious man.

S. B. Purcell, the subject of this sketch, was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, November 9, 1839. He came with his parents to Texas in 1847, was raised in Fayette county, and in 1860 came to Williamson county, locating in the southern part. In 1883 he moved to his present location, twenty miles northwest of Georgetown, where he has 500 acres of good land, 120 acres cultivated. In addition to general farming, Mr. Purcell is giving considerable attention to stock-raising. He is independent in political matters, and religiously, is a member of the Primitive Baptist Church.

August 14, 1861, in Williamson county, our subject was married to Sabea C., a daughter of Freeman and Nancy (Asher) Smalley, natives of Indiana. The parents came to Texas in 1845, locating in the southern part of Williamson county, where the father died in 1849, when Mrs. Purcell was only two years of age. The mother afterward married a Mr. Juvinall, and after his death she became the wife of C. Purcell. Her death occurred in 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Purcell have had eleven children, viz.: Mary Anna, now Mrs. Flood Snow, of Burnet county, Texas; Alice B., wife of George Adams, also that county; Hattie, wife of Joe Jackson, of Williamson county; Ulysses, at

home; Joseph, deceased; Willie, deceased; and Zela, Morton, Bruer, Dora and Sammel, at home. Mr. Purcell is a successful farmer, and is held in high esteem by his many friends.

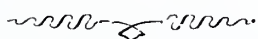


JOHN T. HUDGINS, one of the well known and prominent men of Bastrop county, was born at Henderson, Rusk county, Texas, December 29, 1857, a son of James W. and Margaret (Warren) Hudgins. John T. was educated in the public schools of Miller county, Arkansas and at the age of fifteen years was employed as clerk by N. B. Flippin, of Texarkana, where he remained eight years. From 1878 to 1883 he was successfully engaged in general merchandising for himself at Richmond, Arkansas, but in the latter year sold his store there and came direct to Bastrop county, Texas. March 1, 1883, Mr. Hudgins engaged in business at Old Smithville, under the firm name of J. T. Hudgins & Co., but after the new town of Smithville was started they moved the store to this place, erecting the first large store building in the town. November 15, 1890 their building, stock and dwelling were destroyed by fire, the loss amounting to about \$30,000. They did an annual business of \$80,000. Since that time Mr. Hudgins has devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits, owning a farm of 1,400 acres, 650 acres of which is cultivated. He raises about 250 bales of cotton each year, besides corn and other supplies, and twenty families are required to carry on the work of the plantation. Mr. Hudgins is also president of the Smithville Improvement Company, a chartered institution, with a capital stock of \$15,000. He has a large and handsome residence



at Smithville, is one of the most enterprising men of the vicinity, and is ready at all times to assist in any enterprise that will advance the interests of his community.

October 10, 1884, he was married to Miss Fannie E., a daughter of James R. and Josephine Nicols. The father came to Bastrop county, Texas, in an early day, and made a fortune by mechanical work. He was born in Virginia, and his death occurred in 1888. Mrs. Nicols resides with her daughter, Mrs. B. F. Hudgins. She is a daughter of T. G. Garth, a member of a noted family, a lawyer by profession, a prominent politician, and a large planter and slave owner. His family consisted of ten children, of whom Mrs. Nicols was the eldest child. Mr. and Mrs. Hudgins have three children: John T., Josephine E. and Sallie B. Mr. Hudgins is a member of the Masonic fraternity, J. Nixon Lodge, No. 421, and is Master of Finances in the K. of P., Smithville Lodge, No. 92.



**J** W. HODGES, County Clerk of Williamson county, Texas, was born in Claiborne county, Tennessee, July 10, 1834, a son of Allen and Mary Jane (Yost) Hodges, natives also of that State. The Hodges family are descended from three brothers. They lived on the Virginia side of North Carolina. John Hodges, the grandfather of our subject, was born in North Carolina, but he removed to Tennessee in an early day. His wife was Sarah McCubbins, and they had seven children, viz.: Zachariah married Sarah Thomas and was a merchant of Tennessee, where he died; Barbara, who also died in that State, was the wife of C. Margraves; Mary, deceased near Terre Haute, Vigo

county, Indiana, was the wife of Henry Cooper; Canada, deceased near Belton, Texas; Allen, father of our subject; William, a resident of Tennessee, and Sarah, deceased in the former State, was the wife of William Hansford. The maternal grandfather of our subject, George Yost, also had seven children, as follows: George and James, formerly prosperous merchants, residing at Kingston, Tennessee, lived to an old age, but neither ever married; Margaret and Eldridge, both still living, the latter a merchant of Kentucky; Margaret, wife of Mr. De Armond, a merchant of Kingston, Tennessee; Catherine, deceased, was the wife of Washington Wester; and Allen, deceased at the age of twenty-one years. Allen Hodges, the father of our subject, was a merchant, tanner, and a trader in stock at Tazewell, Tennessee. He contracted his last sickness while on a trip south with stock, and died in 1844, aged thirty-nine years. He was a devout member, as was also his wife, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was well known and highly respected. The mother died in 1840, aged thirty-two years. Her life was an inspiration to gentleness, patience and courage, and she held a sacred place in the hearts of a large circle of acquaintances. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges were the parents of three children—J. W., our subject; John, a merchant of Georgetown, married a Miss Carothers, and Mary, deceased in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1861, at the age of twenty-five years, was the wife of James Rice. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

J. W. Hodges, after reaching a suitable age, was employed as a clerk in Tazewell, Tennessee. In 1858 he emigrated to Burnet county, Texas, where he taught school until the opening of the late war. In February,



1862, he enlisted in Company A, served as a private until the close of the struggle, remained on this side of the river, and took part in many battles and skirmishes. After the close of hostilities, Mr. Hodges purchased a farm and worked at farm labor for a time, and was then elected County Assessor and Collector, holding that position until removed by the Reconstruction Act. For the following five years he was engaged in farming; from 1872 to 1882 followed general merchandising in Georgetown; in the latter year was elected County Clerk, and re-elected in 1892. Mr. Hodges is an accomplished and pleasant officer, and his continuous re-election to the same office for so long a period evinces the high esteem in which he is held by an appreciative constituency.

November 14, 1854, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Emily Rucker, a daughter of Captain John Rucker, of Grainger county, Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges have had five children, namely: John, deceased at the age of twenty-two years, was a graduate of the Louisville Medical College, a practicing physician in this county, was a young doctor of great promise, and had a bright future awaiting him; Benlah H., wife of W. W. Dimmitt, a farmer of Williamson county, and they have two children—Lilburn and James H.; Cornie, who died December 23, 1891, aged twenty-one years, was a graduate of a New York school of elocution, and was a fine elocutionist; James F., who has been assisting his father for the past four years; and Oliver, a pupil of the Southwestern University, who will soon begin the study of medicine. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in which the former is a Steward. He is a member of the blue lodge, chapter and commandery, and is

Treasurer of the two former, and has been a delegate to the Grand Lodge of the I. O. O. F. As an officer Mr. Hodges has no superior in the State; as a citizen he stands deservedly well and is kind and courteous to all.



EDWIN R. ANDERSON, a carpenter and farmer by occupation, was the first white child born in Williamson county, March 5, 1847. His parents were Dr. W. R. and Nancy P. (Knight) Anderson, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Ohio. The father was a son of William and Patsey Anderson, who moved to Monroe county, Indiana, in about 1818. While there they were many times quartered in blockhouses to protect them from the Indians. They were the parents of fourteen children, all of whom lived to be grown. Milton went to California in 1850; Irvin came to Texas in 1879 or 1880; and the remainder were scattered through the Northern States, but none are now living.

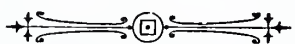
W. R. Anderson, father of our subject, and a physician and surgeon by occupation, left Illinois in 1845, arriving in Rutersville, Fayette county, Texas, in the fall of 1845, and on Brushy creek, Williamson county, the following year. He followed his profession and farming there until 1854, and in that year embarked in the drug business in Georgetown. During the last ten years of his life he was retired from active business, and his death occurred in Georgetown, November 22, 1889, aged seventy-nine years. Dr. Anderson served one term as Probate Judge of his county, was a member of the Presbyterian Church for many years, and was a Union man throughout the war. He





stood high as a practitioner, business man, Christian and gentleman. His wife died in 1888, aged sixty-nine years, they having lived together forty-nine years and eleven months. Dr. and Mrs. Anderson were the parents of three children, viz: Edwin R., our subject; Helen H., deceased in 1880, was the wife of J. M. Page, and Lucy H., wife of Mr. Shultz.

Edwin R. Anderson, the subject of this sketch, is engaged in carpentering and farming, and also in the breeding of Jersey stock. He owns a ranch near Taylor, Texas, where he has about seventy head. He has assisted in the erection of several buildings, and although still in the prime of life is classed among the pioneers, having spent over forty-five years of his life in the county. Mr. Anderson was married in 1869, to Miss Elizabeth Talbert, a daughter of R. E. Talbert, a resident of Williamson county. She came with her parents from Louisiana in 1853, when five years of age. To this union has been born one child—Cora Bell. Mrs. Anderson is a member of the Old School Presbyterian Church. Socially, our subject is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and politically, affiliates with the Republican party.



**O**WEN HIGGINS HOLMAN, a successful farmer and respected citizen of Travis county, Texas, residing near Watters, has done as much as any other one man of his community to advance the agricultural interest of the vicinity, and he thus is entitled to the prominence and prosperity he now enjoys.

The Holman family is of German descent. The paternal grandparents of the subject of

this sketch, James S. and Martha W. Holman, were natives of Tennessee, but settled in Texas in 1856. The grandfather followed railroading and died of yellow fever at Bryan. His son, Willis M. Holman, and father of the subject of this notice, was born in Tennessee, July 2, 1834. In January of 1856, he was married to Miss M. D. Higgins, also a native of Tennessee, where she was born July 17, 1833. Her parents, O. W. and F. L. Higgins, were natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively. Immediately after their marriage, the parents of the subject of this sketch, removed with the rest of the family to Texas, settling on land near Fiskville, in Travis county. Here the father of Mr. Holman of this notice, died March 21, 1861, leaving his family and many friends to mourn his loss. He was a man of good English education, and in early life was a successful teacher; his later days, however, were devoted to farming, in which he was also prosperous. He was a Democrat in his political views, and a man of the strictest integrity and highest moral character. He was the father of three sons: James S., a merchant and ginner of Hutto, Williamson county, Texas; Willis D., a stockman of that county; and Owen Higgins, whose name heads this sketch. After his father's death, Mr. Holman's mother married J. A. Cato, a native of Alabama, and they resided several years in Travis county, but later removed to Hutto, where the mother still lives, J. A. Cato having died March 10, 1893. By this union there were three children, who also reside in Hutto: Fannie C., wife of C. R. Stephens, in the lumber business; George H., a dealer in wood and coal; and Virgie C., wife of W. A. May, a merchant.

The life of Owen Higgins Holman, although that of a young man, affords a strik-




ing object lesson of what may be accomplished by hard work, strict economy and good judgment. He was born in Travis county, about four miles from his present home, January 11, 1861. His father died when he was an infant, and his youth was passed in farm work and in attending the district school, residing with his mother until he was nineteen years of age. He then commenced work by the month, receiving for his services \$10 a month. Not realizing the value of money, he had at the end of that year of hard work, nothing to show for his labor. The next three years, however, he farmed on shares for Joseph B. Rogers, and when he sold his crops, Mr. Rogers, although not needing the money, borrowed the proceeds and paid Mr. Holman ten per cent. interest. In this way Mr. Holman secured a start, and on accumulating a small capital, he rented land of his brother, J. S. Holman, for three years, following which he rented land for three years of W. R. Bird. Each year increased his accumulations, until at the end of this time he was able to purchase 150 acres from his former preceptor, J. B. Rogers, for which Mr. Holman paid \$3,000. In the fall of 1891, Mr. Holman bought seventy acres of his present farm, and as he was able added to it from time to time, until he now has 283 acres of as fine land as the country affords, 210 acres of which is under an excellent state of cultivation. He also owns a cotton gin, worth \$1,500, and has a one-third interest in 320 acres in Dallam county, Texas. Thus starting in life without a dollar a few short years ago, he has by his own industry and good management accumulated a fine property, and is to-day worth not less than \$10,000.

In 1883, Mr. Holman was married to Miss Polly Ann Bird, a native of Illinois,

and a daughter of the late Thomas and Polly Ann (Ayers) Bird. Her parents came to Travis county in 1866, and were active and useful members of society in their community for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Holman have two children: Owen Willis and James Bird, both intelligent boys.

Politically, Mr. Holman is a Democrat, and take a commendable interest in everything pertaining to the good of his country and the community in which he resides, to the advancement of which he has so largely contributed.

 **W** T. MASSENGALE, a thrifty young farmer of Milam county, was born in Coosa county, Alabama, in 1853. Two years later his father, J. C. Massengale came to Milam county, Texas, locating near Maysfield, where he owned 300 acres at his death. He was born in Alabama, in 1830, secured a fair English education, and followed the pursuits of agriculture all his life. During the war he entered the Confederate army, was detailed as beef driver, furnishing the Trans-Mississippi troops with Western beef. His death occurred during the last year of the war. The paternal grandfather of our subject had six children, two of whom are now living. Our subject's mother, *nee* Frances Thomas, was a daughter of Dred and Malinda Thomas. Malinda Thomas was an aunt of Senator J. M. McKinney. Mr. and Mrs. Massengale had five children,—W. T.; Malinda, wife of John Peel; Janie, wife of Alexander Blasienz; Ida, who married J. C. Averyett; W. D. married Mary White. The mother died in 1870.

W. T. Massengale was thrown on his own resources at a tender age, on account of the





P. M. Koll





early death of his parents. At the age of twelve years he was left to provide for a mother and younger brothers and sisters. He has always followed agricultural pursuits, and in 1880 became the owner of his first farm, consisting of sixty-six acres, and when he sold the place ten years later, to C. C. Cargill, its acreage was twice as great. In 1890 Mr. Massengale bought his present farm of 240 acres, eighty acres of which is cultivated to corn and cotton. In 1892, twenty-three bales were raised on the place. He also feeds about fifty head of beef cattle annually. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in county and State affairs.

In 1880, Mr. Massengale was married to Miss Lulu Cargill, a sister of Mrs. W. H. Burnett, of this county. To this union have been born three children,—Averitt, John and Burnett. Mr. and Mrs. Massengale are members of the Little River Baptist Church.



**G**APT. P. M. KOLB, an old settler of Milam county and a prominent and prosperous farmer, was born in Talbot county, Georgia, June 25, 1827. His parents, William G. and Alzada (Tronpe) Kolb were natives, the father of North Carolina and the mother of Virginia. They were reared however in the Cherokee Purchase of Georgia, whither their families moved during their childhood. They were married in Jones county, Georgia, and after a residence of some years in Talbot, Meriwether and Coweta counties, that State, moved in 1845 to Texas and settled in what is now Freestone county, locating on Kechi near the mouth of Negro creek. There the father bought a tract of 3,000 acres of land which he opened up and

on which he engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was one of the first settlers of that locality and continued to reside there till the date of his death in 1876. He died however at Palestine, whither he had gone on business. His widow survived him several years dying in Milam county in 1883. Both were well advanced in age. Peter M. Kolb, the subject of this sketch, was the fourth of their eleven children. He was a young man when his parents came to this State, his boyhood and youth having been passed in Georgia. Soon after coming to Texas he entered the ranging service, enlisting in a regiment commanded by Colonel John H. Conner, with which he served for about six months against the Indians in the western part of the State. He then returned to Washington county where he engaged at his trade as carpenter and gin builder, which he followed there for a number of years. Marrying in the meantime, he moved to Grimes county and in 1859 came to Milam county. On coming to this county he purchased 150 acres of land on Brushy creek, about four miles west of where Rockdale now stands, and there he settled and engaged in farming and stock-raising. September 8, 1861, he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Company D, Harde-man's Regiment, with which he served in the campaigns into New Mexico, taking part in the battle of Valverde, and was on the return expedition along the Gulf coast, taking part in the engagements at Mansfield, Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou, closing his services on the Brazos in Burleson county, where his regiment was disbanded. On being mustered into the service he was elected Third Lieutenant of his company, soon became its commander and was commissioned Captain in 1863, remaining at its head until the close of hostilities.



When the war was over Captain Kolb returned home and, directing his attention to the problems of peace then confronting the country, purchased more land, which he opened up and branched out in the successful pursuit of his farming enterprises. His present place, consisting of 750 acres, has been purchased from time to time as he has earned the means and has been improved from year to year in the same way; 500 acres of it is now under cultivation and it is well stocked and furnished with a good class of farm buildings including a gin which is run regularly through the ginning season. The farm lies in the San Gabriel valley, being in one of the richest agricultural sections of the county. It is all black soil and yields in accordance with the well-known productiveness of the "black waxy belt." Captain Kolb has given his attention for thirty-odd years exclusively to agricultural and kindred pursuits in which he has met with reasonable success. He has never held any public office, having refused all offers of this nature. He has a high regard for the good opinion of his fellow-men and endeavors by all legitimate means to win it, but he does not confound this with popular applause, to gain which so many men spend a large share of their time and effort. Captain Kolb has been a Democrat all his life, but National politics attracting very little interest in Texas at an early day, he never cast a vote for a Presidential candidate until 1868, voting then for Seymour and Blair, the regular Democratic nominees. In 1859 he was made a Mason and has taken an active part in the order since that date. He is also a member of the Knights of Honor.

The brothers and sisters of the subject of this notice were: Sarah Ann, who was married to B. A. Parrott; Parthenia A., who was

married to George Green; Mary A., who was married to B. M. Martin; John Fletcher, who died in Shelby county, eastern Texas, 1855; William G., who enlisted in Waller's Battalion and died at Hempstead during the late war; Hugh, who died in the Confederate army also; Ameriens, who married Mr. Alexander and lives in Freestone county on her father's old homestead; Georgie A., who was married to M. Fletcher; Martha, who was married to A. B. Bell, and Milton, who was married to George Johnson and died in 1880 in Llano county.

Captain Kolb has been twice married. In 1849 he married Miss Charity Robinson who died two years later, leaving one child, Fannie S. March 11, 1855, he married Miss Martha Jane Jackson, daughter of E. D. and Annie Jackson, then residents of Washington county, this State. The issue of this union has been seven children: William H., who died in infancy; Abner P., who died in early youth in 1878; Charles L., who was born in 1860; Mattie A., born in 1868; Lela V., born in 1871; Minnie A., born in 1873, and Della F., born in 1877.



**G** PUCKETT, a successful farmer of Travis county, was born in Vigo county, Indiana, January 21, 1831, a son of Thomas and Nancy (Tarbin) Pnekett. The family are of Irish descent, and lived in North Carolina at the time of the Revolutionary war, in which they took a prominent part. The father of our subject was born in that State, and when eighteen years of age took part in the war of 1812, serving in both the North and South. During the battle of New Orleans he was stationed as guard near that city. After the close of the struggle



he went to Indiana, was there married to the mother of our subject, then the widow Early, and lived there twenty-six years. On moving to that State the Indians were numerous and hostile, and he assisted in building the first house on the present site of Terre Haute. In 1838 the family came to Texas, although the father had come to this State the year previous on a prospecting tour, and purchased land in Cherokee county. He afterward located on the place where our subject resides, and the old log cabin, which he built in an early day, still stands in the field. The mother departed this life in 1859, and the father in 1868. The latter was a Democrat in political matters, and a member of the Methodist Church. He left a large property at his death. Mr. and Mrs. Puckett were the parents of eight children, viz: Irena, deceased; Hannah, deceased; L. D., of Tom Green county, Texas; C. R., deceased; the subject of this sketch; Miranda C. and Useba, twins, the former the widow of Alexander McRae, of Austin; and the latter wife of Nathaniel Moore, of Lincoln county, New Mexico; and Elijah, deceased.

C. Puckett was reared to manhood in Texas, and early in life engaged in the stock business. He went with cattle to Coryell county, and was there during the late war, in which he served in the western part of the State. In 1867 he located on his present farm of 700 acres in Travis county, 300 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation.

Mr. Puckett was married in this county, March 26, 1867, to Miranda C. Moore, who was born in Clark county, Arkansas, January 2, 1840, a daughter of Thomas W. and Mathilress (Yates) Moore. The father came to Texas at the age of sixteen years, with Austin's first colony. After the battle

of San Jacinto he received word that his first wife was dying, and he immediately went to headquarters to ask for a leave of absence, stating the reason. He was refused by Houston, who said if he attempted to go he would be shot. However, Mr. Moore went to his tent and prepared to leave, but Mr. Houston ordered a detail to surround him, and to shoot if he moved. Mr. Moore pointed his gun at Houston and told him to give the word if he dared, but he would be the first to drop, and he returned home in safety. Mr. and Mrs. Puckett have four children,—Thomas, of Runnels county, Texas; Elihu, a resident of Travis county, Leon, also of Runnels county; and Cyrus, at home. Mr. Puckett affiliates with the Democratic party.



**J**E. COOPER, editor of the Williamson County Sun, and an attorney of Georgetown, the subject of this sketch, is a man of whom Judge Chessher says: "He is a straightforward, reliable and successful business man, true as steel and honorable in every way. His success in business has been attained in a quiet manner and he has never bored anyone with his paper." Mr. Cooper was born in Manry county, Tennessee, February 5, 1855, and came of the noted Cooper family of that State. His parents, Robert T. and Lonise Clementine Cooper, were both natives of Tennessee, where they were reared and married. The former, a farmer of Tennessee, served as Sheriff of Lewis county for one term, and enjoyed an extensive acquaintance. During the late war he enlisted in 1861, was made Captain of Company H, Third Tennessee Infantry, and was taken prisoner at Fort Donelson, being retained





for about a year at Johnson's island, when he was exchanged and returned to service. During his entire term of service he enjoyed only two short furloughs and was killed at Raymond in battle near Jackson, Mississippi, in 1863. Colonel John C. Brown, late Governor of Tennessee, in speaking of him, says: "No braver man was in the service than he." He was leading his men on to victory, having himself just taken two prisoners, and the company many more, when he was shot in the breast by the enemy, and only lived about two hours. They were led into ambush and were having a hand to hand encounter. Two of his company, who saw him fall, ran to his relief, one on either side, and both were instantly killed, falling each way dead over him. His age, at death, was thirty-five years. During life he attended the Presbyterian Church, in which faith he was reared, although he was not a member of the church. His father, grandfather of our subject, Robert O. Cooper, served as County Clerk for Lewis county for over twenty years. He had a remarkable memory, and was one of the best read men in the State. He had ten sons and five grandsons in the Confederate army, of whom five of the former lost their lives in the service, four of the others returned home wounded, and only one of the ten escaped unhurt. In addition to the ten sons in the army, Mr. Cooper had one son physically unable to go into the army, and three daughters, and reared his fourteen children to maturity. This honored gentleman died at the age of ninety-four. The maiden name of his wife was Cooper, but she was no connection, a native of Iowa, of Irish extraction, her grandparents being natives of Ireland, who settled in South Carolina on coming to this country. Our subject's mother, Louise Clementine was one of four daughters born

to Robert O. Smith, while her father was a nephew of Robert O. Cooper, our subject's grandfather. The mother was reared by her maternal grandfather, who was a Baptist in religion. Owing to her training she inclined to the same faith and was noted for her sweet and kind disposition, being one of the most amiable of women. So strong was the attachment between her husband and herself that she never recovered from the shock of his death, although she survived him until 1867, when she died. She possessed many of the sweet and loving attributes of the wife, mother and neighbor, and so strongly were her acquaintances impressed by this fact that they were all her friends.

Our subject is the oldest of five children, two of whom were twins that died in infancy, those living, being: Mary Belle, wife of W. S. Leake, of Georgetown: Robert T. Cooper, who married Miss Corinna Taylor, and is the collector in the First National Bank, and our subject. The last was educated in his native State, and after finishing he engaged as clerk in the Chancery's Clerk's office for about two years, during which time he did a great deal of writing necessary in such a capacity. He then came to Texas, January, 1876, and taught school in Williamson county for seven months, being very successful. In spite of his success in the work, he felt that he was better suited for other things, so engaged as clerk at Round Rock for Captain J. C. S. Marrow. He came to Georgetown in 1877, and in April of that year started his paper, The Williamson County Sun, to which he gave the present name. Since that time he has been the editor and publisher with the exception of the year 1891-'92. This paper has a circulation of 1,500, and has been the official paper of the county and city for many years. The success of the paper has been



wonderful. Although he started without money, his energy, determination and zeal have amply compensated for that lack. During his residence in Georgetown he has been importuned many times to accept office, but has always refused. Being a person who has had the welfare of the county and city at heart, he has done more than his share of the charity work, both as an editor and a private person. He has served as Chairman of the Democratic County Executive Committee, and is now a member from his county of the Congressional Executive Committee, and has always taken a leading part in advancing the best interests of the county.

Mr. Cooper was married in 1878, to Miss Mary Sansom, daughter of Colonel Richard Sansom of Georgetown, an old settler and ex-County Treasurer, also a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1875. He died in 1880, at the age of fifty-four. Our subject and wife have three children, namely: Jessie A., Louise S. and Edgar L. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which the former has been an Elder for many years. He is a member of the K. of H. and Knights and Ladies of Honor, and Knights of Pythias.



**CAPTAIN J. L. BRITTAIN**, a member of the marble firm of Brittain & Spencer, of Georgetown, Texas, was born in Putnam county, Indiana, November 29, 1833. His parents were Nathaniel and Emeline (Faught) Brittain. The mother was a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of Paul Faught, an old and highly-esteemed pioneer citizen, and an extensive farmer of Putnam county. His death occurred in that county. Our subject's father, formerly a farmer of

Indiana, came to Texas in 1845, and his death occurred at Brittain Springs (named in his honor), Denton county. He was one of the early pioneers of that locality, was well and favorably known, and was acquainted with the hardships and dangers incident to Texas pioneer life. He died in 1847, at the age of forty-three years. His wife departed this life in 1845, soon after coming to Texas. She was a good and devout member of the Christian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Brittain were the parents of seven children, four of whom are still living, and all are in Texas except one brother, James, who resides in Louisiana.

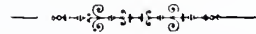
Captain J. L. Brittain, the second of the seven children, and the subject of this sketch, was reared to farm life. He came to Georgetown, Texas, in 1852, and soon afterward engaged in the mercantile business, as a clerk. He next conducted a business for himself seven years. Mr. Brittain was elected Sheriff of this county just before the war, serving about six months, and when the dark cloud of war arose, although an anti-secessionist, when the State seceded he took the side of the State, and enlisted in 1862 as a private. In 1861 he was in the ranging service on the border. Secession coming on, Governor Houston called them in, after a service of some six months, and our subject served as acting Adjutant, with the rank of Captain. He saw hard service, chased many Indians, and passed through 200 miles of country, which was then filled with buffaloes. James Brittain, a younger brother of our subject, then aged about fourteen years, on one occasion was out with a surveying party of about fifteen. He served as their errand boy. When out from the office of the surveyor about fifteen miles, they put him on a horse to return to the office for something they had



forgotten. He attended to the errand and was back in due time. While he was gone the party had been visited by a lot of blood-thirsty Indians, who had killed the entire party, and this alone was perhaps all that saved him from a like fate. He found their bodies scattered here and there, and all were sleeping that sleep that knows no waking. Our subject served on this side of the Mississippi river, in Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana, was in no great battles, but saw much hard service. He was with General Marmaduke, of Missouri, for the most part. Mr. Brittain returned home in May, 1865, resumed farming, but soon afterward took a drove of horses to Arkansas, which proved a successful trip. He was next engaged in merchandising about twelve years, and then, in 1875, returned to his farm, where he followed that occupation and trading in live stock. He still owns a ranch near town, and also a drove of horses in the West. In 1891 Mr. Brittain embarked in the marble business in Georgetown, with O. L. Spencer, in which they are doing well.

Our subject was married in 1869 to Miss Julia Posey, a daughter of James C. Posey, of this county. They have five children, viz.: Mand, wife of Jack Duke, of Round Rock, this county; Pat C., attending the Southwestern University; Posey; Frank L. and Jessie May. The wife and mother died in 1879, aged thirty-three years. Mr. Brittain is a member of blue lodge and chapter, and religiously is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In early days our subject was well acquainted with such men as Pinkney Anderson, Sam Houston, Philip Clayburn, Bert Simons, Bob Taylor and others whose names figure in Texas pioneer history. These gentlemen were not afraid to do and dare, and to them the civilization of the present day is greatly due. Captain

Brittain, like many others, has done his part in opening up the frontier and preparing the way for the pace of civilization and progress, which the present generation now enjoys. He has ever been in thorough sympathy with the progress and growth of the community on every line of advancement.



JOHN FAUBION, of Williamson county, is a son of William and Rosanna (Ayers) Faubion. This is one of the oldest families in the State, and of German descent. Grandfather Jacob Faubion emigrated to America about the middle of the eighteenth century, married an English lady, and lived for a time in Pennsylvania. In 1760 they moved to the eastern part of what is now Tennessee, settling in what afterward became Cocke county, where he raised a large family. Several of his sons participated in the war of 1812. William Faubion, father of our subject, passed his entire lifetime in that county. He was married at the age of eighteen years, and they had eight children, four now living: John, our subject; Frethias, of Cocke county, Tennessee; William, of Milam county, Texas; and Tillman A., of Burnet, this State. The Faubion family have been farmers and blacksmiths by occupation, and are Baptists in their religious views. The mother of our subject came from South Carolina to Tennessee. While making the journey the wagon needed repairing, and they camped at the blacksmith shop of Mr. Faubion, where they became acquainted, and were married the following morning. Her parents continued the journey to middle Tennessee. Mrs. Faubion died a few years after marriage, and her husband departed this life in 1839.

John Faubion, the subject of this sketch, was born in Cocke county, Tennessee, Febru-





ary 6, 1812. In the fall of 1853 he brought his family and a number of negro slaves to Texas, landing in this vicinity in the following December. Mr. Faubion has since lived in the neighborhood, has done much toward the development of this beautiful and naturally favored section, and is now ready to retire from life's duties. In 1861 he built the beautiful and commodious stone residence he now occupies. Mr. Faubion has in his possession many deeds and land warrants, and the following is taken from an old deed given his grandfather in Cocke county, Tennessee. It is described as "a certain tract of land containing forty-two acres, lying in the county of Cocke, on the end of a ridge called Widow's Ridge, beginning at three black oaks, and running thence west forty-two poles to a black oak and white oak, south forty-five, west eighty-three poles to a black oak sapling, south again sixty poles to a stake, east forty-five to a stake on his deeded land," etc.

In 1833, in Cocke county, our subject was married, and in the course of life they had seven children, viz.: • William, of Leander, Texas; Jeremiah, of Lampasas county; James R., also of Leander; John, of Bell county; Luther, of Leander; Mary, widow of a Mr. Wilson, and resides three miles from her father's home; Isabella, deceased, was the wife of Andrew Pickle, of Leander. The wife and mother died in 1849, and October 3, 1851, Mr. Faubion married Elizabeth Stephen. Their child died in infancy. Mr. Faubion has been an active worker in the Methodist Church for many years.

William Faubion, the eldest son, was born in Cocke county, Tennessee, February 28, 1835, and was nineteen years of age when his parents came to Texas. After marriage he spent two years in Burnet county, but at the

opening of the late war, on account of Indian troubles, he returned to Williamson county. He enlisted as a private in Company D, Sixteenth Texas Infantry, served in the Trans-Mississippi Department until the surrender, and took part in the battles of Milliken's Bend, Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, and in Bank's expedition on Red river. Mr. Faubion now owns 515 acres of fine land, 150 acres of which is cultivated. The place was purchased in 1878, is located two miles northwest of Leander, and contains over \$7,000 worth of improvements. He erected a windmill at a spring a quarter of a mile from his house, and forced the water to a 500 gallon wooden tank, raised ten feet. But, not satisfied with this, he built a cemented circular reservoir of stone, five feet deep, and about twenty feet in diameter, on a point higher than his stables, and thus has a constant supply of water. He also has several fine varieties of fish in the reservoir.

Mr. Faubion was married in this neighborhood, December 22, 1858, to Marinda Black, a daughter of W. M. Black, who emigrated from this State to Arkansas in 1848. To this union have been born ten children: John, of Jones county, Texas; Mollie, at home; W. C., of Hill county, this State; James, at home; E. H., of Williamson county; Maggie, wife of Travis Harrel, a medical student; Frank, Louis, Gilbert and Abbie, at home. Mr. Faubion affiliates with the Democratic party.

James R. Faubion, the third son of John Faubion, was born in Cocke county, Tennessee, July 15, 1839, but was reared to manhood in Texas. In 1862 he enlisted for service in the late war, entering Company A, Morgan's battalion, and took part in the battles of Arkansas Post, Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, in Bank's expedition, and in Marma-



duke's raid to Cape Girardeau. He now owns one of the finest farms in Williamson county, consisting of 200 acres, 100 acres of which is cultivated. He also has 200 acres of pasture land in Burnet county. In his political relations, Mr. Faubion is a Democrat; socially, is a Master Mason, has served as Worshipful Master of his lodge several times, and is now Senior Deacon; and in his religious views, is a member and Steward of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served as Sunday-school Superintendent many years.

Mr. Faubion was married in Williamson county, in 1858, to Cilinda Babcock, who was born in Illinois, but came with her parents to Williamson county, Texas, at an early age. Mr. and Mrs. Faubion have three children: Charles, a clerk in the Assessor's office at Georgetown; John, telegraph operator at Buda, Texas; and James, engaged in the same occupation at Fairland, this State. The wife and mother died in 1881. At Liberty Hill, Texas, in 1885, the father married Mary Potts, a native of Arkansas, who also came to this State when a child. They have five children: Eulah, Bessie, Walter, Lilburne and Arthur.



**G**EORGE T. JACKSON, a member of the Legislature, a prosperous farmer and worthy citizen of Burleson county, Texas, was born in Scott county, Mississippi, October 1, 1851. He is a son of W. B. and Virginia C. (Kealey) Jackson, natives of North Carolina and Mississippi, respectively, who moved from the latter State to Texas in 1852, and have been for many years prominent and of respected residents Burleson county. After forty-five years of

married life, they are in the full enjoyment of health and happiness, with their children grown up and comfortably situated around them. This worthy couple landed in Texas in the January following the birth of the subject of this sketch, where he has ever since resided, having been reared to farm life and stock-raising. He received a good education for the times in the common schools of his vicinity, after which he taught two terms. He lived under the paternal roof until he was thirty-three years of age, when he was married. Preparatory to this event, he bought 143 acres of raw land, on which he built a house, and after marriage began to clear and improve it. He now has eighty acres fenced, fifty of which are well cultivated to cotton and corn, besides which he raises sufficient pork to supply his home with lard and meat.

His marriage occurred December 23, 1883, to Miss Thomas L. Lovelace, an estimable lady, born in Alabama, April 4, 1861. Her parents, William R. and Martha Lovelace, were natives of Georgia, who moved to Texas in 1867, and first settled at Jones' Prairie, in Milam county, whence they subsequently removed to Burleson county. Here the devoted mother died in 1876, and the father is now residing in Brown county. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson have had five children, three of whom died young. Those surviving are: William R., born June 29, 1885, who was a twin, the other one having died; and Ruby T., born May 25, 1888.

Politically, Mr. Jackson follows in the footsteps of his father, being a strong advocate of Democracy. He was nominated to his first office in 1892, and elected a member of the Legislature to represent his district, his opponent having been a third-party man. Those who know Mr. Jackson and appreciate his sterling qualities of character, may rest







Emilie Heinatz



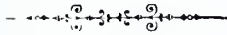
J. G. Heinatz





assured that his constituents will be ably and honorably represented.

Fraternally, Mr. Jackson affiliates with the Royal Arch Masons. He and his devoted wife are earnest members of the Baptist Church, to which his family have belonged for several generations. He and his wife are worthy people, and enjoy the universal esteem of their community.



**J** F. HEINATZ, deceased, was a well and favorably known character in Williamson county, and especially in the region known as Bagdad prairie, where he had been the leading business factor for nearly forty years. As the name indicates, he was of German birth and parentage, having been born in Prussia December 6, 1822. He early learned the blacksmiths' trade, and followed that occupation in the fatherland until 1848, when he determined to try his fortunes in the New World. Arriving at Galveston November 27 of that year, Mr. Heinatz spent the first few years in traveling throughout the North and West. In the early '50s he returned to Texas, and, after a sojourn in Shelby county, located at Austin, where he soon afterward married Miss Bertha Raven. She died one year later without issue. In the fall of 1853 our subject located on the strip of prairie afterward known as Bagdad prairie, having been among the earliest settlers in that part of the county. He followed his trade in a stone blacksmith shop for a number of years, after which, on account of failing health, he embarked in the mercantile business. By honesty, fair dealing and good business judgment Mr. Heinatz gradually built up a large trade, mounting from the condition of obscurity and

poverty to a position of influence and wealth.

December 10, 1863, at Austin, he married Emilie Krohn, who still survives, and whose many good qualities of mind and heart made his success possible. Mrs. Heinatz was born in Princelau, near Berlin, Germany, September 3, 1842, a daughter of Carl and Emilie Krohn. In 1854 the family came to Austin, Texas, where the father has ever since resided. The mother died in Austin, Texas, January 25, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Heinatz had eight children, viz.: Charles F., Mary, John, William, Dora, Shelton, Marvin and Sarah. The last suffered death January 13, 1891, by a most distressing accident. Her clothing caught fire while she was standing in front of a fire-place, and death ensued in a few hours. J. F. Heinatz died May 4, 1891, after a long illness, his demise occurred at his home in Bagdad. The business world remembers him as a successful and leading merchant, but the community in which he lived will always feel his loss as a promoter of every good work, as he was liberal of his means, and untiring in his efforts to promote the general welfare of the community. He was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and in his church papers we find that, "He was a Steward for many years, and looked after the interests of the church with a jealous care." As a Sunday-school Superintendent he was a success. On his death bed, as the minister entered the room, he turned to his wife and said: "Mamma, get that purse and make that settlement at once." That being done, he expressed his satisfaction, and said he was now ready to depart. His last words were: "I am happier to-day that I have been for a long time."

Charles F. Heinatz, eldest son of the above, and who now successfully carries on the busi-



ness left by his father, was born at Bagdad, October 12, 1866. He began mercantile life at the age of sixteen years, as a clerk for his father, but after two years left the counter for the free life on the plains. In June, 1888, the firm of J. F. Heinatz & Son was formed, since which time he has carried on the business. It is now entirely his own enterprise, and is the largest business in the new town of Leander, a town built from the ruins of old Bagdad. Mr. Heinatz was married in Burnet county, Texas, October 1, 1890, to Ida M. Yett. They have had two children, Robert H., and Roy John F., twins. The latter is now deceased.



**J**ASA JACKSON, a well-to-do farmer and respected citizen of Burleson county, Texas, is a native son of the Lone Star State, having been born in Hill county, June 19, 1856. His parents, W. B. and Virginia C. (Keahey) Jackson, are natives of North Carolina and Mississippi, respectively, and moved from the latter State to Texas in 1852. They settled in Johnson county when the subject of this sketch was about five years of age, and there remained five years. They then removed to Burleson county, where young Asa attained his growth, was married, and where he has ever since made his home.

Mr. Jackson, of this notice, remained under the paternal roof until he was twenty-four years of age, when, in 1880, he was married. He then rented a tract of land which he farmed until 1882, when he bought 200 acres of wild land, 100 of which is now under fence, with about sixty acres under cultivation. He rents part of his land, but grows the remainder to cotton and corn, and raises sufficient pork to supply his home with lard,

etc. He taught school about three years, but now devotes his attention entirely to his farming interests.

In 1880 Mr. Jackson married Miss L. R. Collier, an intelligent lady, who was born in Alabama, April 3, 1860, and came to Texas with her parents in 1878. She is the daughter of Professor J. P. and Mary A. (Rogers) Collier, also natives of Alabama. Her father has followed teaching nearly all his life, and both parents now reside in Llano, Llano county, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson have had six children, two of whom died young. Those surviving are: Paulina E., born May 30, 1882; Roy C., born January 20, 1884; Rowena V., born April 2, 1886; and Mary R., born April 30, 1889.

Politically, Mr. Jackson adheres to the Democratic party, of which his father before him has always been a strong advocate, but the subject of this sketch does not aspire to public office, although taking a deep interest in the public welfare. He is a worthy member of the Masonic fraternity, and he and his faithful wife are useful members of the Baptist Church, to which denomination his ancestors for several generations have belonged. Mr. Jackson is a worthy son of a worthy father, and reflects credit on his birthplace and place of residence, the great State of Texas.



**J**OSEPH T. DANIEL, deceased, who resided on his farm in Milam county, Texas, for nearly half a century, was one of the venerable citizens of the county. A brief sketch of his life is as follows:

Joseph T. Daniel was born in Alabama, December 31, 1824, son of Peyton and Mary (Curry) Daniel, the former of Georgian birth,



and the latter a native of Alabama. An orphan when quite young, Joseph T. was left to the care of his maternal grandparents, Thomas Curry and wife, with whom, at the age of ten years, he came to Texas. He remained a member of their family until he reached his majority. While his educational advantages were limited, he was fortunate in receiving good training otherwise, his grandparents being industrious, moral people, who instilled into him good principles, their daily lives being in accord with their teachings. On coming to Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Curry took up their residence, about January 5, 1835, in the settlement then constituting Robertson's colony,—what is now Robertson county. There the grandfather died in 1840, leaving to young Daniel his right to a league of land which he had located in what is now Milam county. This county was then unorganized and was practically unoccupied territory, the Indians being too numerous and hostile to permit of its settlement. Mr. Daniel was yet young and not desirous of settling down, so he held the papers but made no attempt to improve the land. In the meantime, his services being called for in defense of the settlers, he entered the various organizations as they were raised, and helped through several years to protect the frontier against both the Indians and Mexicans. In 1840-1 he was a member of the organization known as the "Minute Men," and participated with this organization in a number of expeditions against the redskins. In 1842 he joined the expedition against Mexico, under General Sumrervell, and was out on duty several months. Later, he was in the celebrated Snively expedition, organized to intercept the Mexican train on its way to St. Louis with gold and silver, which expedition failed in its purpose to get the precious metal

but succeeded in getting some fighting out of the Mexicans. Then, in 1846, he enlisted in Ross' regiment for the Mexican war, and served on the Rio Grande for three months, or until the close of hostilities.

Marrying in 1847, Mr. Daniel moved out to the claim which his grandfather had left him in Milam county, and on this tract of land he afterward made his home. Live stock was the principal source of revenue at an earlier day, and Mr. Daniel was profitably engaged in raising and selling horses and cattle until the opening of the late war, during the first two years of the war managing to hold his business pretty well in hands, but on the call for volunteers in 1863, he entered the Confederate service and was in it until the cessation of hostilities, serving on the Gulf coast and in the vicinity of Galveston. When he returned home after the close of the war he found most of his property gone, and it was not until after several years of hard work and close economy that he was able to replace what he had lost. In 1879 he turned his attention to the mercantile business. In this venture however, he was unfortunate, losing not only the ready cash he had, but also having to sacrifice some of his land in order to save his credit. He then retired to his farm and thereafter gave his attention strictly to farming pursuits, the place comprising about 200 acres of black soil, well located, most of which is under cultivation and productive.

Mr. Daniel was twice married. In March, 1847, he wedded Miss Nancy House, daughter of John House, who moved to Texas from Mississippi in 1836, dying shortly afterward in Robertson county or colony as it was then called. This lady was a native of Mississippi. They became the parents of seven children, as follows: Frances, who





was married to W. C. Sparks, and who died in Bell county, this State, April 21, 1888; Mary C., wife of Mike Rogers, Milam county; Wade H., a resident of Oregon; Joseph P., who died in 1881, leaving a widow and three children; Artilla, wife of James Swann, Bell county, died February 2 1890; Dora, wife of J. W. Smith; and John D., a farmer of Milam county. Mrs. Daniel died September 19, 1871, and May 18, 1873, Mr. Daniel married Mrs. Sarah Riggan, the widow of Rev. M. T. Riggan, formerly of Milam county. The present Mrs. Daniel is a daughter of John and Elizabeth Gillmore, natives of Alabama. Her father was a leading Methodist divine of Alabama and Mississippi for many years, dying in the latter State, October 2, 1844, of typhoid fever. His wife died on the same day and of the same disease. Mrs. Daniel had five children by her former marriage, none of whom are now living. By her last marriage she had no children. Mrs. Daniel, as was also her late lamented husband, is a member of the Methodist Church and zealous in the support of all church work. Politically, Mr. Daniel was originally a Democrat, but in later years was independent, with a leaning toward the People's party. Fraternally, he was a Chapter Mason.

On the 5th of April, 1893, Mr. Daniel was stricken down with paralysis and lay until the 29th of August, when he departed this life, sincerely lamented by all.



**D**ANIEL D. FOWLER, a prominent and prosperous farmer, residing in the vicinity of Gause, Milam county, Texas, is a son of Alexander Fowler, and a brother of Joseph D. Fowler

Daniel D. Fowler was born in Butler county, Alabama, in 1850, but was reared in Guadalupe and Milam counties, Texas; growing up on the farm and receiving the usual educational advantages of the day. He was in his eighteenth year when his father died, and, being one of a large family, he began at that time to look out for himself. His first employment was as a teamster, hauling freight from Milam and Bryan, then the termini of the Houston & Texas Central Railroad, to Austin and other western points. In this business he was profitably engaged for three years. As the railroad progressed westward his operations as freighter were cut off and he turned his attention to live stock and the butcher business, furnishing supplies to the construction crews of the International & Great Northern Railroad then building north from Hearne. After a year so spent he bought a small farm on Cedar creek, on the south line of Milam county, where he settled and began farming. Two years later he bought his present homestead, consisting then of 320 acres of unimproved land, for which he agreed to pay \$1,600, paying \$1,000 down and agreeing to pay the rest in twelve months, which he did. Thus, by careful economy and good management, he was enabled to get a start. The passing years have witnessed a marked change in his affairs. Now he owns 1,400 acres of land; 300 acres of which are under cultivation; his place is stocked with 800 head of cattle, forty horses and other stock in proportion. His comfortable home and other good farm buildings are among the improvements on his land, and, while Mr. Fowler has accumulated a large fortune, his time has not been solely taken up with gathering the property about him. He has a family, and, in addition to a large household of his own, he has raised five



orphans—brothers and sisters of his wife—whom he has trained to habits of industry and usefulness, and provided for in proportion to his means and their wants.

Mr. Fowler was married in 1872, to Miss Emaline Patty, who was born in Arkansas, and who accompanied her mother, Mrs. Delilah Patty, to Texas, her father having died in California a number of years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have had ten children: Walter G.; Ella, who died at the age of seven years; Frederick Dow; Edgar; Addie Lou; Bertie May; Pearl; Daniel Webster; Charles B., and one that died in infancy.

Mr. Fowler is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being Junior Deacon of Milano Lodge, No. 605, and he is also a member of the Knights of Honor, Lodge No. 506, at Cameron. Both he and his wife belong to the Methodist Church, in which he has served as Steward and Trustee, and in the affairs of which he takes an active interest.



**W**ILLIAM BENSON BATES, an enterprising and successful farmer and stock dealer of Lyons, Burleson county, Texas, is a native of Cherokee county, Georgia, where he was born October 23, 1847. On his father's side, he is of Irish origin and of English descent on his mother's side. His paternal great grand-father William Bates was a native of the Emerald Isle and a gun-smith by trade, although much of his life was spent in farming. He emigrated to America some time during the latter part of the last century and settled in Virginia, where he became a man of wealth and influence. He was a Captain in the Revolutionary war and was a man of unusual ability. He held several important official positions

in Virginia, having been at one time a member of the Legislature of that State. He lost most of his property in the Revolutionary war, and afterward removed to South Carolina, where, at one time, he owned two farms on the Tugaloo river, but in his old age he became poor and when he died owned only a small farm and a mill. He survived to a good old age, dying in South Carolina, in 1821, greatly mourned by all who knew him. He had three brothers: Daniel, also a soldier in the Revolutionary war; Phlegmin and Mathew. Great grandmother Bates' maiden name was Mary Royall. She was a widow with one child when she married William Bates. Her first husband, named Barton, was a Tory and died in Savannah. She survived Mr. Bates many years, dying at an advanced age. His son, Stephen Bates, who was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Virginia in 1778, and when a young man went to South Carolina, where he married a Miss Cox and settled down to planting and distilling and lived for a number of years. In later life, he removed to Georgia, in which State he died at the advanced age of seventy-four. He had ten children, among whom were: William F., George, James M., J. R., Peggy and Sallie. The second of these, James M., was the father of William Benson, of this article. James M. Bates was born in South Carolina, January 23, 1811. In 1832, he accompanied his parents to Georgia, where he learned the trade of a wood workman, and followed this business mainly in the line of bridge building for a number of years. He was a fine workman and fond of his trade, at which he was reasonably prosperous. In after life, he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and now lives on a fine farm in northern Alabama, surrounded by all the comforts of life and in



the universal esteem of his fellowmen. The mother of the subject of this sketch bore the maiden name of Lizzie Williamson, and was a daughter of James Williamson, a Georgia planter, in which State she was born. The children of James M. and Lizzie Bates were: Amanda, who married J. F. McIntyre; Josie M., who first married William M. Mahaffey and after his death, a Mr. Blagg; William Benson, of this article; Alexander H.; and Sarah Ann, who died at the age of thirty. On the death of his wife in 1852, James M. Bates married Rebecca McIntyre, and they had three children: James Washington, Benjamin Franklin and John Rice.

William Benson Bates, whose name heads this sketch, was reared on his father's farm near Atlanta, Georgia, where he remained until he became of age. His father moved to northern Alabama some time during the war, and it was from that State that Mr. Bates came to Texas a few years later. On coming to this State, he settled in Burleson county and secured his first employment as a clerk for T. J. Pampell, at Lyons. He was engaged in the mercantile business, first, as a clerk and, later, as a partner, at Lyons, for about two years, at the end of which time he began handling cattle and followed this pursuit actively and exclusively up to 1882. At that date, he settled on a farm near Lyons, in Burleson county, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and his interests have since been farming and stock growing. He owns a ranch in Fort Bend county, which represents a considerable investment, and to which he gives a good portion of his time and attention.

On December 21, 1881, Mr. Bates married Miss Z. S. Fulford, who moved from Montgomery, Alabama, to Texas some time in the '50s. They have four children: John

Sly, James C., Charles T. and George F.

This prosperity represents the outlay of a commensurate amount of energy and attention, and Mr. Bates is justly deserving of all the good fortune which the future may have in store for him.



**D**R. JOHN E. WALKER, physician and surgeon of Georgetown, Texas, was born in Rockbridge county, Virginia, December 4, 1831, a son of John C. and Margaret (Coulton) Walker, who were born, reared and married in that State. The grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. John C. Walker, took part in the war of 1812. In 1836 he moved his family from Virginia to Montgomery county, Indiana, where he followed agricultural pursuits. He was a cousin of Alexander H. Stewart, who served as Secretary of the Interior under the administration of President Fillmore. Mr. Walker died in Montgomery county, soon after the late war, at the age of seventy years. He was an attendant, although not a member, of the Presbyterian Church, of which the family were members. He was the embodiment of those qualities which go to make up honorable manhood, was a man of high honor, strict integrity, and splendidly equipped for intelligent citizenship. The mother of our subject died soon after they came to Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Walker were the parents of four children: Archibald, a farmer by occupation, died in Montgomery county, Indiana; Judge A. S., Reporter of the Supreme Court, in Austin; Robert C., a resident of Iowa; and John E., our subject.

The latter attended the Waveland Academy, of Indiana, and later the Wabash Col-





lege. In 1851 he began the study of medicine, under Dr. Parsons, of Mace, Indiana, and in 1857 began the practice of his profession where New Paris is now located. In January, 1858, he opened an office in Williamson county, Texas, where he is the oldest living practitioner of the county. When he came to this place there were only two dry goods stores, owned by E. W. Tolbert and Josiah Taylor, and one church, the Presbyterian, which was also occupied by the Baptist, Methodist and Christian. The school house was also situated in one end of the church, and was taught by well qualified and good instructors for those days. Among them were W. H. Henderson, Rev. R. M. Overstreet, of the Presbyterian Church, and Mr. McMurry. Mr. Walker served one term as Alderman soon after the incorporation of the city, but never aspired to public office.

He was married in 1869, to Miss Louisa Wilbarger, a daughter of Mathias and Sarah M. (Stewart) Wilbarger, natives of Virginia. The father was reared in Bourbon county, Kentucky, and the mother in Missouri. The parents came to Texas in 1837, first settling in Bastrop county, afterward in Travis county, and in 1848 came to Williamson county. In 1852, on account of the advantages of the school, they came to Georgetown, and the father died of smallpox in February, 1853, aged forty-six years, the disease having been brought to the neighborhood by negroes. The entire family, except the oldest daughter, contracted the disease. The mother died in December, 1883, aged sixty-seven years. She was a member of the Methodist Church for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbarger had five children, viz.: Anna Jane, deceased at the age of thirty years, was the wife of A. S. Walker, of Austin; Louisa, wife of our subject; Henry Clay, who mar-

ried Miss Anna Harper; James M., who died with the small-pox; and Mathias, deceased at the age of two years. Henry Clay died in March, 1885, at the age of forty years, leaving three children: Sarah, George C., and Anna M. Dr. Walker is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, also of the I. O. O. F., of which he is Scribe of the Chapter. Both as a practitioner and Christian gentleman, Dr. Walker gives character to the many good, honest, honorable, worthy and true men of Georgetown.



**W** S. BROOKSHIRE, Sheriff of Williamson county, was born in Wapello county, Iowa, November 15, 1850, a son of Jesse and Susan J. (Harrow) Brookshire, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Montgomery county, Indiana. The father was engaged in farming in Iowa for sixteen years, and in 1859 came to Williamson county, Texas. In 1869 he located on a farm in Newton county, Missouri; where he spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1875. Both he and his wife were prominent and devoted members of the Christian Church for many years. The latter died in 1856. There were the parents of several children, most of whom are still living.

W. S. Brookshire, the subject of this sketch, began business for himself by working for wages, and later engaged in stock-raising. He has followed farming and stock-raising for the past fourteen years, and he now owns 956 acres of land, 300 acres of which is cultivated. On this land he can raise anything grown in this latitude, but he is principally engaged in raising cattle for beef. Mr. Brookshire held the position of Constable from 1869 to 1871, was County



Commissioner from 1891 to 1892, and in the latter year was elected Sheriff of his county. He also served out the unexpired term of his predecessor, J. T. Olive, who was waylaid and killed in September, 1892.

Our subject was married in 1877, to Miss Hattie Hurt, a daughter of James H. Hurt, of Brenham, Texas. They have five children: Leora, Lola, William, Ralph and one unnamed. Mrs. Brookshire is a member of the Baptist Church. Socially, our subject affiliates with the Masonic order, blue lodge, chapter and commandry. He is a man of decided character, strong in his attachments, and devoted to his many friends. He is noted for his benevolence and kindness of heart, is gentle and sympathetic in his nature, never deaf to the cry of distress, or blind to the merits of the deserving, who stand in need of a friend. His selection for the important office he holds, and the unanimity of desire for his continuance in the same, are ample proof of his qualification. He places a high estimate on the personal character and the good name of those to whom are confided public trusts. Mr. Brookshire takes rank among the responsible, worthy and most highly esteemed citizens of the county.



**J**OHAN R. SIMS, M. D., who has been prominently identified with the interests of Burleson county, Texas, since 1868, and who has resided at Tunis since 1872, is one of the representative men of his county.

Dr. Sims was born in west Tennessee, December 13, 1828, and when quite young removed to Columbus, Mississippi, where he was reared. He received his education in

the common schools and the Franklin Academy. At the age of twenty he began the study of medicine under the instructions of Dr. Richard Harrison, with whom he remained a year and a half. Then he took a medical course in a college at New Orleans, after which he entered a medical college in Philadelphia, graduating in the latter institution in the winter of 1850-'1. Returning to Mississippi, he began the practice of his profession in that State and continued there until his coming to Texas, as above stated. During the war he served as Assistant Surgeon in the Forty-third Mississippi Regiment for some time; later, on account of ill health, was placed on the Board of Medical Examiners. After coming to Texas he continued the practice of his profession until about 1885, when he practically retired. He still, however, does some office practice. From time to time since coming to this State he has made investments in land until he is now the owner of about 640 acres in three farms, two being located on the Brazos bottoms and one near the village of Tunis. This land he has under cultivation and rented to tenants.

Dr. Sims is a son of William and Rachel (Walker) Sims, of Culpeper county, Virginia. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812; was by trade a carpenter and gin-wright and died in Columbus, Mississippi, in 1847. The Doctor's mother was a daughter of Honorable Samuel Walker, who was a native of South Carolina and who served as Speaker of the House of the Alabama Legislature. He was a leader in politics and in religion was a Primitive Baptist. He died in 1841. William and Rachel Sims had four children, the Doctor being the second born. Colonel M. W. Sims, the Doctor's brother, is a farmer at Bryan, Brazos county, these two being the only ones of the family in Texas.



The subject of our sketch now has his second wife. His first wife's maiden name was Miss Virginia S. Holiway. She was born in Mississippi in 1843, daughter of Samuel Holiway who went from Alabama to that State, and there passed the rest of his life on a farm. Mrs. Sims died in July, 1872. She had three children, two of whom died in infancy. The other, Samnel H., is married and has a family and resides in Oklahoma. In 1880 Dr. Sims married Miss Mary McMorries, who was born in Mississippi, July 24, 1844, daughter of Baxter and Martha (Herrington) McMorries, of South Carolina. Her father went to Mississippi in 1811 and died there in 1857. His wife with her second husband (Mr. Eubank) moved to Texas in 1865, and died in Bryan, Brazos county, in 1876. Mrs. Sims is the oldest of their children, and one of the four who are still living. By his second wife the Doctor has two children; Mamie, born October 15, 1881, and John R., February 5, 1886.

Dr. Sims is a Democrat, a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife is a Presbyterian.



**J**OHAN T. BRYSON, Cotton Weigher of Georgetown, Texas, and one of the most prominent citizens of Williamson county, was born in Henderson county, North Carolina, September 28, 1857, a son of Martha and R. B. Bryson, natives also of North Carolina. The parents were married in their native State, and came to Williamson county, Texas, in 1865. The father was born in 1819, and died in this county November 24, 1872, having been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for about

twenty-five years. He was a quiet, unassuming farmer, extensively known, and highly respected. Mr. Bryson was also an old Confederate soldier, having enlisted in April, 1861, and served until the close of the struggle. He was appointed Inspector of horses, which was a public trust of great responsibility, but his services was rendered in an efficient manner. He was in Ransom's Division, but sent back with Captain Lane to look after home matters. His farm of 900 acres is still in the possession of the family. Mrs. Bryson, born in 1818, died October 2, 1892, having also been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. and Mrs. Bryson were good old people, substantial citizens, devout Christians, and of signal usefulness. They traveled life's pathway together for many years, and were not long separated. Having passed from earth's activities, their memory is a precious inheritance. They were the parents of four children, as follows: J. C., who resides on a farm near Leander, this county, married Miss Nancy Wells, and they have five children,—Emma, Robert, Ella, Henry, Myrtle. Mary, the second child is the wife of Edd Girvin, and they reside on the old home farm. They have five children,—Julia, Walter, Fitzhugh, May and Guy. Rachel, wife of T. W. McGill, resides in Georgetown, and has three children,—Wayne, Ollie and one unnamed.

John T. Bryson, the youngest child, and the subject of this sketch, was educated in the county schools, and reared to farm life. He was successfully engaged in farming until 1892, when he was elected County Weigher. He was married in 1878, to Miss Ella Magill, a daughter of Captain J. P. Magill, of Leander. To this union have been born three children,—Grace, Jeff and Gertrude. Mrs. Bryson is a member of the





Methodist Church. Politically, our subject affiliates with the Democratic party, and socially, is a member of the I. O. O. F. Mr. Bryson's success in life is due to his fine business ability and unflagging industry. He is honored by his fellow citizens for his high character, and his pleasing, social qualities have won for him a coterie of friends almost as numerous as his acquaintances.



**S**TEPHEN BOZARTH, a Justice of the Peace in Giddings, Texas, was born in Pope county, Illinois, February 27, 1826. His parents were Grarl and Mary (Wilson) Bozarth, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. The former followed farming in that State until he was thirty years of age, when he removed to Illinois, of which State he was a pioneer. He ran the Kanawha salt works for many years until salt began to be shipped from the East, when the works ceased to pay. Then he went back to his old farm, but in 1838 he moved to New Madrid county, Missouri, and before death became one of the well known men of the locality.

The grandfather of our subject came to America with General Lafayette and later became a member of the staff of that distinguished General. He died many years since, in Kentucky, when our subject's father was a small boy. After the close of the war the old gentleman returned to France, but the United States Government gave him large grants of land in Kentucky for his services during the Revolution, and he came back and settled in the then wild State with Souverns, Vometer and Linn, these being the first white families, who located there. Linn was presumed to have been killed by the Indians.

In some of the histories of the State an instance is given of a case, where a Mrs. Guthrie killed six Indians with a broad ax, and this heroic woman was the sister of our subject's father. The latter, Israel Bozarth, died in 1859, having been born in 1784. His wife was born in 1796, and died in 1880, both of them having been members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, but later, in Missouri, they joined with the Methodist Episcopal Church. They reared nine children, one other having died at the age of ten years. Our subject is the seventh child, and three of the family are still living: W. B., in San Jacinto county, Texas, and a sister, Mary Thornbury, who lives in Miller county, Missouri.

The first business in which our subject engaged was that of farming, and he has followed it in connection with trading in stock. He was elected Justice of the Peace and County Commissioner soon after the war opened, and these offices exempted him for a time from service, but later he enlisted in the State troops and was in Camp Cooks, where he was discharged after a hemorrhage of the lungs. He came to Texas in 1859, settling in Bosque county, and began farming and dealing in stock. He bought a fine lot of horses in Missouri and remained in that same county until 1869, when he came to Washington, now Lee county, to engage in farming.

After coming to this county our subject settled four miles north of Giddings, where he remained until he sold his farm in 1884. He then bought another on Yegua creek, in the same county, which he still owns. He removed to the town of Giddings in the fall of 1888, remaining there four years, and then removed to the farm until 1892, when he returned to town. He filled the office of Jus-



tice of the Peace for four years, and is now filling an appointment of George Seay, who died in September, 1892. Mr. Bozarth was Sheriff in Dunklin county, Missouri, for four years, in 1847, about forty-five years ago, having been one of the pioneers of that county, and discharged his duties efficiently. Before he left Missouri he entered the Legislature of that State, where he continued for two years.

In 1846 our subject was married to Miss Rebecca Stein, who died in 1870, aged forty-two years. She was a member of the Christian Church. They had fourteen children, four of whom died in infancy, but the other ten grew to maturity. Jonathan, the oldest, died at the age of thirty-five years, leaving seven children: Miles, died when thirty, leaving two children; Mary J., afterward Mrs. C. Williams, died aged twenty years; John T., died at twenty-five; Rebecca M., died at twenty-five; Franklin P., died at thirty years, leaving two children; Elizabeth, who became Mrs. C. B. Hosey, had one child, and died at the age of twenty-three; Samuel L., died at the age of nineteen; Sterling Price, married Sallie Bulls, and lives on a farm in Lee county; and George, died at the age of eighteen. As something unusual, the wife and all of the deceased children died within ten years. Jonathan was Sheriff of Llano county, when he died. He had served three terms and took sick the very day that he was elected the fourth time. He was intensely popular and had but fifty-three votes against him. He was a fine looking man, and his death was deeply deplored. Miles was Deputy-sheriff in Lee county for four years, and for two years was Constable in Giddings precinct.

The present wife of our subject was a Miss Octave Elizabeth Williams, whose parents were old settlers of Texas, to which State they

came when her father was a small boy. Mrs. Bozarth was reared in Fayette county, and was educated in Rutersville College. She taught school in Warda for four years, and was a lady of talent and scholarship. She married Mr. Bozarth in 1884. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Christian Church. He has belonged for a number of years to the Masonic order, in which he is a Royal Arch Mason. He now takes little interest in politics, but is still active in his Masonic duties, having filled every position in that order in Tyler. He is also a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., in which he has filled all the chairs and of which he has been Grand Representative three times, and every time from the same lodge, which initiated him.

Both as a citizen and as a public officer he has been faithful, energetic, prompt and active in the discharge of all duties, and has filled all his public trusts satisfactorily, and whenever he has been a candidate, he has been re-elected. As a private citizen, our subject has managed his business until he now is in easy circumstances. He has been enterprising and public-spirited, often giving time and money to forward the interests of the county, and takes rank with the best citizens.



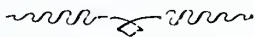
**M**RS. ALEXANDER McRAE, of Hyde Park, Austin, Texas, is a sister of C. Puckett, who is well known in Travis county. She was born in Vigo county, Indiana, February 27, 1837, and was four years old when her parents moved to Texas. Here her early childhood was passed amid the privations of pioneer life. After her mother's death she kept



house for her father, until he, too, passed away, when she went to live with her brother Chauncey, with whom she remained until her marriage.

She was married April 17, 1873, to Dr. Alexander McRae, a native of Mississippi. Dr. McRae was educated in one of the eastern colleges, and after his graduation settled for the practice of his profession, about 1870, in Hornsby Bend. They had two children, Chester, who died at the age of six months, and E. T., now seventeen years of age, and the pride of his fond mother. Some years passed, when husband and wife concluded it would conduce to the happiness of each to live apart.

In 1882 Mrs. McRae went to Tuscola, Illinois, to care for her invalid sister, Irena. This sister had married Caleb Garrett, a wealthy and influential gentleman, and was living in Tuscola, when, in 1880 she received a stroke of paralysis. Mr. Garrett died in 1887, and his wife followed him in 1890. Mrs. McRae returned to Texas in 1892, since which time she has been living in her new home within the charming resort in the suburbs of Austin, known as Hyde Park.



**H**ON. W. K. MAKEMSON, an attorney, and senior member of the law firm of Makemson & Roberts, of Georgetown, Texas, was born at Danville, Vermilion county, Illinois, February 26, 1836. His parents were Samuel L., and Martha (Knight) Makemson, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Ohio. The parents were married in 1834. In 1828 the father moved from near Cynthiaana, Harrison county, Kentucky, to Vermilion county, Illinois, locating seven miles west of Danville,

on the middle fork of the Vermilion river, near the town now called Oakwood. November 25, 1847, in company with his family, and John and Doctor William Knight, and their families, he located on Brushy creek, Williamson county, Texas. While in Illinois, Mr. Makemson took part in the Sac war, during part of which time he was stationed at fort Dearborn, Chicago, assisting to rebuild that fort. Later, he was engaged in removing the Indians from Illinois to their reservation. He was a farmer by occupation, and a pioneer who carried the respect of all who knew him. He was an earnest and devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church from his boyhood days. As a Christian he was earnest, self sacrificing, and took a broad view of his personal responsibility. He died in Brushy Creek, in June, 1850. Thomas Makemson, the father of Samuel L., with six brothers, took part in the Revolutionary war. Two of the Malkemsons (as the name was spelled in the early days of the Republic) were killed in battle, and the remaining five returned. Later, one of these, a captain of a vessel, was killed in sight of fort Henry. Thomas Makemson, the grandfather of our subject, was the youngest of seven brothers. He was two years of age when they came from Ireland, settling in Maryland, but after the Revolutionary war Thomas emigrated to Kentucky. He was there married to Jane Lindsey, and they had the following children: Rebecca, Andrew, James, Samuel L., David, Eliza, Nancy and Polly Ann.

Hon. W. K. Makemson, the subject of this sketch, is among the early pioneers of this locality. He heard the first sermon ever preached in Williamson county, which was on Brushy creek, at Freeman Smalley's house, by Rev. Talifaro. Dr. Dane Knight, brother





of the father, built the first school-house in the county, on Brushy creek, and the first school was taught by George W. Laymon, of Danville, Illinois, where he has many relatives. This gentleman, later, married the daughter of John S. Knight, settled in Burnett county, Texas, where he remained until his death, in 1891. He made a large farm and accumulated a great fortune. He was a cousin of Ward Laymon, who was the law partner of A. Lincoln, when the latter was nominated for President in 1860. Our subject received his education from this instructor. When the dark cloud of war between the States arose, he enlisted in Company A, Fifth Texas Partisan Rangers, commanded by Colonel L. M. Martin. He served under Generals Cooper, Steele and Cabell, in the Indian Department, his regiment operating mainly on the southern borders of Missouri, Arkansas and the Indian Territory. In 1864 Mr. Makemson was elected Sheriff of Williamson county, and left the army to enter upon the discharge of the duties of that office, which, at that time, were hazardous, owing to the lawless condition of the country. By a firm and courageous course he managed to restore order and security to life and property. Before the war he was a Union man and opposed to secession. When war was declared he answered the call of his State, and did his duty as a Confederate soldier. However, he did not change his political opinions, and, after the close of the struggle, acted with the Republican party, of which he is now a member. In 1865 Mr. Makemson was appointed District Attorney, by Governor Jack Hamilton, and served through the administration of Governor Pease. Shortly after E. J. Davis secured the Governorship, our subject, not being in sympathy with the administration, resigned the position, since which time he

has held no public office. Although not present he was unanimously nominated for Lieutenant Governor by the State Republican Convention that met at San Antonio, in 1890. Mr. Makemson is one of the public-spirited citizens of the county. He believes in taking part in all endeavors that look to the betterment of the community; is one of the directors of the Georgetown and Granger Railroad, now under construction, and is one of the enterprising citizens of the county. As a lawyer, he enjoys a large and paying practice, and ranks high at the bar. Much of his attention has been devoted to criminal practice, in which he has been eminently successful. Mr. Makemson has, perhaps, been engaged in as many murder trials as any lawyer in the State.

He was married July 20, 1870, at Bastrop, Texas, to Miss Anna Smith, a daughter of Rev. William Addison Smith. They had two children, Ethel and Annie. Mrs. Makemson died August 10, 1880, and ten years afterward our subject was united in marriage with Mrs. Kate Holland, *nee* Patrick, of Boston, Massachusetts. She is a daughter of W. A. Patrick, who was for a number of years County Clerk, of Leon county, Texas. Mr. Makemson is a member of the old school Presbyterian Church. Socially, he affiliates with the Masonic fraternity, the I. O. O. F., of Texas, and has represented the Texas jurisdiction of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.



**R**EV. JESSE J. BRUCE, Tax Collector of Williamson county, was born in Blount county, Alabama, February 11, 1818, a son of Winston and Rebecca (Webb) Bruce, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of South Carolina.



The father was a farmer of Tennessee, where he was raised from four years of age; was married in that State; in 1817, with his wife and one child went to Alabama; in 1847 to Arkansas; and in 1871 came on a visit to his son in Williamson county, where he died in October, 1873, aged eighty-two years. He was a member of the Baptist Church from his fifty-fifth year. Mrs. Bruce died in 1860, aged seventy-five. She has been a member of the Baptist Church for about fifty years. The lives, influence and example of these good old people are an endearing heritage to the family, the communities to which they were honored members, and to the church of their choice. Of their ten children, only two are now living. Elizabeth is the widow of Aacy Hodge, and a resident of Round Rock.

Jesse J. was educated in the common schools of Alabama, where he followed agricultural pursuits until 1845. In that year, in company with his wife and three children he removed to and began the same occupation in Arkansas, but in 1865 located in Williamson county, Texas. After farming twelve years he was elected Tax Assessor of this county, holding that position two terms, one of two and the other of three years, and was then elected by the Commissioners' Court as Tax Collector. Mr. Bruce is just finishing his twelfth year in that office, and will be succeeded by his son-in-law, who was elected November 8, 1892. Our subject also served on a circuit, as supply for two years. In 1850 he was licensed to preach in the Baptist Church, of which he had been a member from his eighteenth year, and formerly served that denomination as Class Leader. He has always been an ardent supporter of the Church, was ordained a Local Deacon in 1854, and was ordained an Elder in 1858.

Rev. Bruce was first married in 1838, to Miss Mahala Dommick, a daughter of Jacob and Catherine Dommick, natives of South Carolina, where Mrs. Bruce was also born. To this union were born six children; namely: Martha F., who died in 1881, aged forty-three years. She married Nathaniel Hill, and they had six children, Minerva, Louellen, Cora, Linn, Susan and Henry. The mother was a member of the Methodist Church from childhood. Nancy A., the second in order of birth, died in 1878, aged forty-two years. She was the wife of Allen Kirkendall, and they had seven children, Mahala A., Milton, Jesse, (deceased), John, Granville, Elmah and Francis. Landon H., who enlisted in 1861, in Captain Wallace's Company, was wounded in the first day's fight at Shiloh, while on a charge under General Johnston, who was also mortally wounded. Mr. Bruce lived four days after being wounded, and died at the age of eighteen years. He had been a member of the church since his twelfth year. Rebecca C. is the wife of Columbus Massengale, a farmer of Bell county, and they have one child, Jesse. Virginia was accidentally burned to death at the age of five years, her clothes having caught fire while she was standing before a fire-place, and she lived only fourteen hours afterward. Lonisa O., the youngest child, is the wife of James C. De Shields, a farmer of Williamson county. They have one child, Mahala. Mrs. Bruce died in the fall of 1857, aged about forty years, having been a member of the church from childhood. Our subject's second marriage occurred April 1, 1860, to Mrs. Susan Halley, a daughter of William Parker. They had four children, viz.: Julia W., wife of P. D. Byrum; Melissa, who died at the age of one year; Jackson C.; and Mary, wife of Dr. Green Robinson, of Leander, this county.



Mr. Byrum has served as Deputy Tax Collector twelve years, and will succeed his father-in-law to that office. He has five children, Jesse L., William L., Susan E., Richard D. and Daniel L. Mrs. Bruce died in 1887, aged fifty-nine years, she having also been a member of the church from girlhood. Mr. Bruce was married the third time, in September 1889, to Miss Rebecca Kinard, a daughter of M. L. Kinard, of Union county, Arkansas.

It is almost needless to add that during his official career, our subject has managed the office well, and has an enviable reputation as an honest and efficient public servant. From his constituency only words of the highest commendation are heard. His successor, R. D. Byrum, has had a most thorough schooling in the office, and the interest of the people in this line will receive the highest degree of consideration. Mr. Bruce has ever been a devoted Christian, was connected with the church in early life, and always takes a working place in the church and the society of which he is a member.



**T**ERRELL W. AYCOCK is one of the farmers of Milam county, Texas, who has been selected for representation in the history of his county.

Mr. Aycock is a son of Bryant F. and Sarah (Winston) Aycock, his paternal grandparents being William Terrell Aycock and *nee* Mary Cotton, the former of Irish descent, the latter of English, and both early settlers of Alabama. Bryant F. Aycock was born and reared in Alabama, and was a graduate of the University of Alabama located at Tuscaloosa. He came to Texas early in the fifties and located at Caldwell, Burleson county, where he met and, in 1854, married Sarah Winston, daughter of John L. and

Ann W. Winston, of that county, but formerly of Alabama, John L. Winston being a brother of Governor A. A. Winston of the latter State. Bryant F. Aycock served as the Clerk of the District Court of Burleson county, read law, was admitted to the bar, began the practice of his profession at Caldwell, and was doing a good business when the war came on. He entered the Confederate army in 1861, and the following year died in the service at Bowling Green, Kentucky. An honest, brave, intelligent man, good citizen, kind husband and indulgent father; a Democrat in politics, an ardent supporter of the cause of the Confederacy, a popular gentleman, and a zealous Mason, his life was one of which his posterity may be justly proud. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Terrell W., whose name heads this sketch; Ola, a merchant of Coleman city, Texas; and Bryant F., a farmer of Milam county. Mr. Aycock's widow is now the wife of A. D. Cooper of Milam county.

Terrell W. Aycock was born in Burleson county, Texas, February 26, 1856, but was reared chiefly in the county in which he now lives, his mother having moved here at the opening of the war, and made her home with her parents for some years. He was educated in the University of Georgetown, this State, and after his marriage, which event occurred in 1881, he located on a farm about half way between Cameron and Rockdale, where he has since resided and devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits. His farm comprises 450 acres, eighty of which are improved and under cultivation. What he has he has made himself, and while he is not wealthy he owns good property, and with this start and his habits of industry and economy he is very certain to own more.





Mr. Aycock was married in 1881 to Miss Ann Rogers, daughter of W. F. and Sarah Rogers of Milam county. They have had five children, namely: Ida, Emma, Grover (deceased), Dellie and Maggie. Mrs. Aycock belongs to the Methodist Church, toward which he leans in belief and to the support of which he contributes. Politically, he is a Democrat.



**H**UGH CASEY, a retired farmer of Williamson county, was born in Wayne county, Tennessee December 11, 1833, a son of James Hill and Jane (Turnbow) Casey. The father was born in North Carolina, October 12, 1813, and the mother in Wayne county, Tennessee, March 15, 1815. They were married in the latter county in March, 1830, where they lived on a farm until coming to Williamson county, Texas, in 1851. They located within one mile of Florence, on Salado creek, where they remained until 1886, and in that year went to Young county. They still make their home in that county with their youngest son, John Wesley. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the father has been an active worker for over a half century. The influence and example of these good old people are an endearing heritage to the family, the neighbors, and the church of their choice. Mr. and Mrs. Casey had nine children, one of whom died in infancy, and of the remaining eight, six are now living, five in Texas and one in Paul's Valley, Indian Territory. Both grandparents of our subject died many years ago.

Hugh Casey, the subject of this sketch, has been engaged as a Texas farmer for thirty years, and previous to that assisted his father

on the home farm. In 1885 he began work at the carpenter's trade, which he followed three years. He has retired from active farm life, but still owns 248 acres of farm land in Williamson county, 165 acres of which is under a fine state of cultivation, and on which can be raised anything grown in this latitude. He devotes his land almost exclusively to the raising of grain and cotton.

Mr. Casey was married December 15, 1853, to Miss Mary W. Hoyle, a daughter of Mrs. Leah Hoyle. Both of Mrs. Casey's parents were natives of Talladega county, Alabama, and always made their home in that county, dying there when Mrs. Casey was quite young. The latter was reared by a sister and brother-in-law, J. L. and Lavina Whittenburg, who brought her with their family to Texas in 1852. Lavina was the eldest of nine children, and she and her husband are still living on the same farm on which they settled in 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Casey had one child, William Fletcher, a member of the firm of Booty, McDongle & Casey, general merchants of Georgetown. He is one of the leading merchants and business men of the city, and as a salesman has no superior in the county. Mr. Fletcher was married January 19, 1886, to Miss Mattie Atkinson, a daughter of J. W. Atkinson, of this county. They have one child, Mary Blanche. Mrs. Hugh Casey died September 6, 1886, at the age of fifty-three years. She was a devout and earnest Christian for over forty years, and as a mother, companion, Christian, neighbor and friend; no words can speak her praise too warmly. Mr. Casey has also been a member of the church for over forty-one years, in which he has been an officer for many years. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic order, Blue Lodge Chapter and Commandery, and has filled all the stations in the blue lodge except-



ing the East. He takes but little interest in politics. Mr. Casey is numbered among the oldest pioneers of the county, and is familiar with the trials, hardships and deprivations incident to pioneer life. He has been looked upon as one of the most substantial and worthy citizens of the county for many years.



**J**OHAN N. McFADIN, deceased.—The valuation of human life in any specific instance may not be determined alone from the subjective success attained in temporal affairs nor as set apart and isolated from the associations which may either hedge or broaden the individual sphere of action. A man's life is, in the broader sense, not his alone, but becomes a very part of the composite life of all those who come within the everdiverging lines of his influence. Responsibility of more than a selfish sort canopies life and at the apex of an angle of influence each man is placed—it being his to accomplish either good or evil in the world to the extent of his personal potentiality in either direction. All honor then is to be accorded to those who pass away, leaving the world better from their having there lived. To establish a record of such a life in a connection of this order is both a privilege and a duty, and it is with a feeling of veneration that we essay the task of briefly touching upon the more salient points in the life of one whose days were practically consecrated to the accomplishment of kindly deeds.

The subject of this memoir, John N. McFadin, was the eldest son of David H. and Jerusha (Dyches) McFadin, and was born in Jefferson county, Texas, August 11, 1838. When he was eight years of age the family removed to Williamson county, where his

father conducted extensive operations in stock raising. We can readily call to the mind's eye a picture of the scenes that must have marked the youth of our subject. Much of his time was passed in the saddle and in caring for the cattle as they roamed the far-sweeping prairies. In those early days educational facilities were necessarily meagre, but the boyish mind had cognizance of a broader mental discipline than that which was represented in the vicinity, and he avidously pursued his preliminary studies in the primitive subscription schools and later, by close application, obtained a good classical and practical education, eventually fitting himself for the ministry in the Christian Church. In connection with this work of preparation, which would have been sufficient to demand the undivided attention of the average man, he was simultaneously pursuing a systematic study of the law and was early admitted to practice at the bar. To such a nature, unselfish and devoted, there could not fail an accomplishment of good in any field of endeavor, but continuing his studies, his inclinations and judgment led him in other directions than that of the ministry and he determined to devote himself to practice at the bar. In view to this end he had, as before stated, lent his efforts by a thorough course of private study at home, and the indomitable will of the man and the breadth of his mentality have, perhaps, been more strongly defined in no other instance than this. For fifteen years he successfully prosecuted his profession at various points in the State—Georgetown, Cameron, Austin and Taylor. That his ability and integrity should soon meet with public recognition was but in the nature of things, and soon there came to him the preferment as Chief Justice of Williamson county. At the



expiration of this official term he was called to serve in an even more important and representative office, being elected District Attorney of what was then the western district of Texas. He was also the incumbent in numerous other offices of trust and responsibility. In his political opinions he was independent and untrammelled by distinctive party lines. This was to be expected from one of his characteristics, but he but held the more firmly for this reason the high regard of the people, whose suffrages he secured as a result of his personal popularity and of the implicit confidence placed in him.

October 20, 1861, he was united in marriage to Miss Mollie L. Sherman, a native of Houston, Texas, where she was born April 11, 1843, being the daughter of William P. and Elizabeth Ann (Teague) Sherman. She was a celebrated beauty in her girlhood days, and was referred to in the Galveston News (1860) as a "Southern beauty," both of face and form. The father was one of the Texas pioneers and served with distinction through the Texas wars. He was extensively engaged in stock-raising for a number of years. His wife, who was a native of Tennessee, was married in Texas in 1832 and they died about 1848, within a few days of each other. After the death of her parents Mrs. McFadin was placed under the guardianship of John Hamblin, at whose home she remained until the time of her marriage.

To Mr. and Mrs. McFadin ten children were born, and of the number only one has passed away. Of them we make record as follows; Alice was married March 6, 1887, to Charles W. McAnulty; Zuma was married in 1886, to Howard H. Jenkins; William A. married Miss Irna Cavanaugh September 20, 1893; Ora J.; Ella married A. M. Ingram, August 23, 1893; ZeVan died in infancy;

and the others are TeVan David, Auma J., Nina and Von Veree.

As the most conspicuous characteristic of the life of our honored subject, and the one for which his memory is revered to-day, it is but consistent that attention be called to his signal devotion to the cause of humanity, than which no life can have a higher aim. He was a statesman of the purest type, and from the forum, the legislative halls and by his pen he thundered denunciations of wrong and pleaded the cause of right. He was a hard student all his life, an ardent and independent searcher for the truth, kneeling humbly at this shrine for guidance. His motto was, "no worshipper of prescribed rules." His judgment was clear, concise and so logical that he is often spoken of as "a man a quarter of a century ahead of his time." He was a leader of advanced thought and a tower of strength to thinking minds. He bore also some distinction as an orator, much of his time having been devoted to serving the public in this capacity. More than once he canvassed the State in the interest of social and political economics.

After a life of activity, devotion to duty and of success in the highest sense of the term, Mr. McFadin entered into eternal rest November 4, 1891, mourned by all to whom had been granted a knowledge of his character, his deeds of kindness and his generosity. To all, however, must have come the realization that thus came only the fitting termination of a life beautiful on earth—life whose continuance could but follow in more glorious realms of eternity. Mrs. McFadin made her home with the children at the old homestead after the death of her husband, and, surviving him by only a few months, she died July 30, 1892.





REV. JOHN H. McLEAN, A. M., D. D., Regent of the Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas, was born in Hinds county, Mississippi, September 24, 1838, a son of Allen Ferguson and Ann (Rose) McLean. The grandfather of our subject, John McLean, was a native of Scotland, but in early manhood emigrated to the United States, locating in North Carolina. He was a teacher by profession, and in religion, a Presbyterian. About the year 1832 three of his sons removed to Mississippi, where Charles engaged in merchandising; Daniel was a physician, and Allen, first a teacher, but later a merchant. The other members of the family remained in North Carolina, excepting a sister, who married a Mr. McLean, and in 1835 they moved to Georgia. Allen F. McLean married Miss Ann Rose, a daughter of Captain William F. and Mary Rose, and they had two sons: William P. and John H. The former, Judge William P. McLean, is a lawyer of marked ability and great integrity, has enjoyed honor at the hands of the State, having served several terms in the State Legislature, one term in Congress, once as a member of the Constitutional Convention, one term as District Judge, and is now an honored member of the Railroad Commission. Mr. McLean, the father of our subject, died soon after the birth of the latter, and the mother afterward emigrated with her father, Captain Rose, to Texas, in the fall of 1839, locating near Marshall, the county seat of Harrison county. Captain Rose was the grand-nephew of General Washington, and served in the battle of New Orleans, under General Jackson. He was a man of great courage and determination, and because of his special fitness was placed at the head of a company, known as the Regulars. He assisted in ridding that section of

country from thieves and lawless characters, in the times when law existed only in name, and jails, wooden structures, were inadequate to the safe keeping of prisoners. In this capacity Captain Rose rendered important service, but not without great hazard, and these scenes of danger and daring had their bearing upon the formation of the character of his descendants, in inspiring them with courage and determination. By her second marriage Mrs. McLean, the mother of our subject, had three children: Bettie, wife of R. M. Hall, ex-Land Commissioner; Mary, wife of P. A. Turner, Esq.; and Benjamin F. Hughes, in the employment of the General Land Office. An uncle of Mr. McLean, Colonel W. T. Scott, an honored citizen of eastern Texas, served several terms in the State Legislature, and was a member of the Secession Convention. Similar service was rendered by another uncle, Judge John Washington Rose, a prominent citizen of Victoria county, Texas.

John H. McLean received his early instructions under an excellent primary teacher, D. W. Foster, and his preparatory training was received under Professors Dubose, Tarlton and Pettit, of Marshall. His mother living in the country, he and his brother were obliged to ride five miles to school, at the disadvantage of two boys on one pony. At the age of sixteen years our subject entered McKenzie College, a flourishing institution at that time, located near Clarksville, Red River county, under the presidency of that remarkable man and educator, Rev. J. W. P. McKenzie, D. D., who has contributed to the State some of its leading men. Among them are Colonel W. S. Herndon, of Tyler; Colonel W. L. Crawford, Judge George Aldridge, Hon. John H. and Dr. Arch Cochran, of Dallas; General W. H.



Young, of San Antonio; Hon. W. J. Swain, of Henrietta; Judge W. H. Ford, of Beaumont; Dr. J. F. Hooks, of Paris; Dr. J. C. Beckham, of New Orleans, who attended Jefferson Davis in his last illness; and Revs. Dr. M. H. Neely and Dr. John Adams. It was at this institution, noted for its rigid discipline, thorough training and religious impressions, that Mr. McLean received his collegiate instruction and religious training for his life work. After graduating he taught two years, as Adjunct Professor in the College, and in 1860 entered the itinerant ministry of the East Texas Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Six years later the Conference was divided, and he now holds his membership in the North Texas Conference.

Dr. McLean was in the pastoral work of his church twenty years, filling prominent stations and districts, having served as station minister in the Jefferson, Paris and Sherman stations, and the Jefferson and Paris districts as Presiding Elder, and for two years was President of the Paris Female Institute. In 1880 he was called to a Professorship and to the Vice-Regency of the Southwestern University, located in Georgetown. In 1890, a vacancy occurring in the Regency of the University, by the resignation of Dr. J. W. Heidt, Dr. McLean filled the vacancy as Vice-Regent, until his election as Regent, in June, 1891. This institution was founded by Rev. F. A. Mood, D. D., in 1873, and opened with three professors and thirty-three pupils. At the last enrollment it numbered nineteen professors and teachers, and 486 pupils, and has among its patrons the Governor, members of the high courts of appeal, and other distinguished citizens, as well as the worthy poor, struggling against poverty for the benefits of liberal education

under moral and religious auspices. The curriculum is extensive, the discipline firm and instruction thorough. Dr. McLean has in many ways enjoyed the confidence and compliments of his church and friends. He has been at the head of the delegation from his Conference to the General Conference, with one exception, from 1874 to the present time; was one of a committee of nine men appointed by the Bishops of his church to revise the hymn-book and was one of five delegates from the State to the last Ecumenical Conference, at Washington, District of Columbia.

Rev. McLean was married March 22, 1866, to Miss Olivia McDugald, who was born at Paulding, Mississippi, September 27, 1844, but at that time a resident of Rusk, Cherokee county, Texas. She is a daughter of Major James and Margaret McDugald. The father was a lawyer of great ability, a member of the State Senate, and a renowned orator. He was a native of Scotland, and died in his adopted State, Mississippi, in 1858. Mr. and Mrs. McDugald had the following children: Dr. Wallace who was distinguished as a surgeon in the late war; Rev. James, a member of the North Texas Conference; Ann, wife of a highly esteemed citizen and a prosperous merchant, Colonel F. M. Hicks, of San Antonio; and Ellen, wife of Hon. R. B. Keagan, of Rusk, Texas. The mother is still living, aged eighty-one years. Mr. and Mrs. McLean have nine children: McKenzie Marvin, Eunice, Margaret, Ann Rose, Olivia, Mary, John, Howell, William Pinkney and McDugald Keener. The three eldest children are graduates of the Southwestern University, and the son is now a lawyer, and one daughter a teacher. The remainder of the children are now students of that institution. The quotable results of



Mr. McLean's labors are most honorable, efficient and praiseworthy. He carries the confidence and esteem not only of those connected with the institution over which he presides, and the community in which he lives, but also of the Church and State at large. His information is broad and varied, he is a clear and forceful writer, unpretentious, in manner, of sterling elements of character and noble manhood,—these are among the qualities which have contributed to his successful and useful life. The Doctor is held in high esteem throughout the Southwest as an educator, and his successful administration sustains well his reputation. He is a man of rare gifts in the management and control of students, having the happy faculty of securing their love and respect and of moulding character of the highest order, mentally, morally, and socially. The institution is enjoying a high state of prosperity.



**T**HOMAS W. FELTON, a well-known and prosperous farmer residing on the San Gabriel river, twelve miles northwest of Rockdale, has been a resident of Milam county, Texas, for the past twenty eight years.

Mr. Felton was born in Smith county, Tennessee, January 2, 1833, son of James and Jane (Glover) Felton. His parents were married in Tennessee, and about 1840 removed from there to Dallas county, Missouri. After a residence of three years there they moved to Izard county, Arkansas, and in that county Thomas W. spent his boyhood days, being reared on a farm and receiving only limited educational advantages. He is one of a family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters. His oldest brother, Richard, died

in Milam county, Texas. The second, Andrew J., died at Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1863, while in the Confederate army. His third brother, James M., also died in the Confederate service, his death occurring at Pocahontas, Arkansas, in 1864; while the two youngest, Geneth D. and Jonathan E., are residents of Tom Green county, Texas. The sisters were all married, and, with one exception, are all living, being residents of Missouri, Arkansas and Texas.

Thoms W. Felton came to Texas when a young man and worked in different localities, being employed to care for stock, until the second year of the war, when he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Company D, Allen's Regiment of Infantry, for service on the frontier and coast defense of Texas. He served in this capacity from the date of his enlistment until the close of the war. The principal engagements in which he took part were those in Louisiana, following Banks' Red river campaign, namely: Milliken's Bend, Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, and Yellow Bayou.

Returning to Texas at the close of the war, Mr. Felton, in partnership with his brother, engaged in the stock business in Milam county, ranging along the San Gabriel river. In 1867 he purchased 320 acres of wild land in the San Gabriel valley, on which he settled and began farming on a small scale, still continuing the stock business and giving his attention chiefly to sheep. Two years later he married and, he and his brother having divided their stock, he settled on his place and enlarged his farming operations and also increased his flocks of sheep. He was successfully engaged in these pursuits for about six years, when the sheep industry began to decline and he lost considerable money on his investments in this line. He





continued his farming operations actively, however, and received good returns from this source. His surplus was invested in lands, so that until within a recent date, when he parted with a considerable part of his holdings, he was one of the largest land owners in the San Gabriel valley. Mr. Felton still has a splendid farm, consisting of about 600 acres, half of which is under cultivation and all of it more or less improved and well stocked with good breeds of horses, cattle and hogs. This farm is located in one of the richest agricultural sections of the county.

December 16, 1869, Mr. Felton married Miss Martha Miles, of Milam county. She died August 10, 1884, leaving six children: Thomas F., Henry Elbert, Charles Wilbur, Lenora Ann, Lanra M. and Walter S.



**J**UDGE THOMAS P. HUGHES, a retired lawyer of Georgetown, was born in Washington county, Kentucky, December 18, 1826, a son of John and Martha (Nantz) Hughes, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Virginia. The father was appointed clerk of the circuit and county courts at the age of eighteen years, and held both offices until his death, which occurred in Springfield, Washington county, Kentucky, in June, 1833, at the age of thirty-six years. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was an Elder in the Presbyterian Church for many years. Mr. Hughes placed a high estimate on personal character and the good name of those to whom are confided public trusts. His brother, eighty-five years of age, and who resides near Bloomfield, Kentucky, is the only one of that family now living. The mother of our subject was a daughter of Frederick and Martha (Watkins) Nantz, the

latter of French, Welsh and English extraction. Her father was twice married, and by the first union there were twelve children, and by the second, one child, Daniel B. Nantz. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were the parents of seven children, viz.: John D., who died unmarried in 1888, aged sixty-eight years, was a merchant in early life, and later a farmer; James R., a practicing physician of Springfield, Kentucky, for many years, but at the time of his death, in October, 1892, was retired from practice, and giving his attention to farming and stock-raising; Martha L., who died in 1874, aged fifty years, was the wife of Dr. William Leake, of Yazoo county; Thomas P., our subject; F. E., a retired physician, and a resident of Dallas; M. Louise, widow of Charles Mann, and a resident of Georgetown; and Daniel H., an attorney by profession and who served as Judge of the Court of Morganfield, Kentucky. Mrs. Leake, at her death, left three children: Dr. Henry, until recently the City Physician of Dallas, and one of the leading physicians of that city; Mrs. William Walton, also of Dallas; and William, a resident of Texas. Mrs. Mann lost her husband soon after the war, and her children are: William L.; Lillie, wife of O. Harrell; and Hattie, wife of Henry Price. After the father's death, Mrs. Hughes, the mother of our subject, married Harrison Blanton, of Frankfort, Kentucky. She died in 1862, having been a devout member of the Presbyterian Church from girlhood. She was an accomplished, pleasant and agreeable lady.

The grandfather of our subject, Edward Hughes, with two brothers, Barnabas and John, came from Ireland to America, locating in Kentucky in an early day. The brothers were cousins of Archbishop Hughes, of the Catholic Church. Edward married Letitia



Reed, and they had fourteen children, all of whom were married and raised families. He died in 1833, the same year as his son John, the father of our subject, both dying near Springfield of the cholera. The disease was so terrible at that time that the merchants of Springfield closed their stores, and many moved to other places. Mrs. Hughes died about 1858, at the age of seventy-seven years. Both she and her husband were members of the Presbyterian Church. Barnabas Hughes was a farmer near Danville, Kentucky, and John made a fortune in the mercantile business in that city. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hughes were: James R., who served as county and circuit clerk of Union county, Kentucky, many years, married Rachel Givens; John, the father of our subject; Elizabeth, who married William Muldrow, and they moved to Missouri; Letitia and Maria, twins; Margaret married Isaac Covington, lived near Bowling Green, Kentucky, and had four children; Edward married Mary Donahue, and had three daughters; Jonathan married Minerva Givens, Sheriff of Union county, Kentucky, and they had two sons and four daughters; Daniel B., still living, married Susan Crosby, and has two sons and four daughters; Willis G., formerly an attorney of Morgansfield, Kentucky, had four sons and two daughters by his first marriage, and by his second marriage, to Bettie Barber, had two sons and two daughters; Sarah, married Lile Irvine, and had one daughter, Reed; Rev. Samuel K., a minister of the Presbyterian Church, who moved to Ohio; and Thomas B. married Hattie Calhoun. They had five children, two sons and three daughters. The eldest son, John C., resides in Missouri, and Edward died unmarried. Letitia, the fourth child of Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, married Hugh Waldron and moved

to Missouri: they had two children. Her husband died, and she afterward came to Texas and married John Sinock. Maria, her twin sister, married Samuel Vantrees, and after his death she became the wife of a Mr. Payton. They now reside in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Fred Nantz, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and assisted in the overthrow of tea in the Boston harbor. He also procured some coffee from the same vessel, which is still in the possession of the family.

Judge Hughes, the subject of this sketch, was educated in Kentucky, and is a graduate of Center College, in the class of 1848, which comprised thirty-five pupils. After graduating he read law under Judge Booker, of Springfield, Kentucky, and also under his uncle, Willis G. Hughes. He obtained license under the Appellate Court of Kentucky, in 1850, and left that State the same year, arriving in Georgetown, Texas, in February, 1851. He is now the third oldest male inhabitant of this city, the others being W. C. Dalrymple and John Shell. Mr. Hughes began practice with his cousin, Edd H. Vantrees, they having also attended the same college. The latter, who held the rank of Captain, was killed by lightning in Louisiana, while on an errand to see General Taylor to change the camping ground. He and his horse were instantly killed. Our subject then continued practice alone until 1860, when he formed a partnership with J. J. Dimmitt, under the firm name of Hughes & Dimmitt, and this continued until the latter moved to Missouri, in 1862. In 1861 the Judge canvassed Williamson county as an anti-secessionist, and at the following election was elected by a large majority a delegate to the secession convention, to meet at Austin. He was one of thirteen to vote



against the ordinance of secession. When the convention met the excitement was intense, and, after different views had been expressed, Mr. Hughes obtained the floor, and made a spirited appeal, taking the ground, first: "That the State had come into the Union with the sisterhood of States by a vote of the people, and the people of the State should have a vote on this question, as to whether it should or should not go out of the Union. Second, if this convention delegates the power to itself to force the State out of the Union, we will bring on a war at once here in the State, for the people are greatly divided on this question. We can only have a harmony either way, by getting the consent of a majority of the Texan people." The Judge was followed by Hon. John Wharton, another member of the Convention, who said: "The gentleman who has preceded me is Unionist, but I am not. I am a Secessionist, and I would rather be a Secessionist than an angel in Heaven." After making a spirited appeal, and showing the many differences between his ideas and those of the gentleman who had preceded him, he quietly remarked that though they differed in many things, they agreed in this way, that the ordinance which had passed the convention should go to a vote of the people and so it did.

During the late war, Judge Hughes enlisted in Company A, Charles Morgan's Battalion, and served as a private until the close of the struggle. He served in the Western Department, under Generals Green, Price and Marmaduke, and served in Arkansas most of the time. On account of declining health he returned home a short time before the close. He afterward resumed the practice of law in Georgetown, which he continued until 1890. In 1866

Mr. Hughes was elected District Judge, but was removed from that office during the reconstruction period. In 1872 he was elected District Attorney of the counties of Williamson, Burnet, Llano, San Saba, Brown and Lampasas, holding that position three and a half years.

Judge Hughes was first married in November, 1856, to Miss Susan Doxey, a daughter of John and Rebecca Doxey, of Missouri. To that union were born three children; Martha R., wife of Professor C. C. Cody, of the Southwestern University, and they have three children, Claude Cody, Thomas Hughes and Dorrel; John D., engaged in the cattle business in Georgetown; and Louretta, wife of A. A. Booty, a merchant of this city. The wife and mother died in June, 1871. She was a member of the Methodist Church. November 22, 1877, our subject was married at the residence of Mrs. William Short, at Louisville, Kentucky, by Rev. M. Conn, of the Presbyterian Church, to Miss Jennie Lowrie Duncan, a daughter of David and Henrietta (Spence) Duncan, natives of Illinois. The mother was the youngest daughter of Dr. Andrew Spence, of Philadelphia. He had the following children: Dr. James, who was born in Philadelphia, graduated at Edinburgh University, served twenty years in the British army, and was never married; Andrew B., deceased, married Miss Alice Hurry, of Philadelphia; Helen, wife of Dr. Henry Dewar, of Lassodi, Scotland; and Mrs. Duncan. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Spence had four children; Andrew, Mary, Alice and Helen. Mr. and Mrs. Dewar had three children: John, Henry and Mary (wife of Dr. Gilman Kimball). Mrs. Duncan's parents died at an early age, and she was sent to Scotland at the age of five years, receiving her education at Edinburgh. After returning to Philadelphia,





she met and married David Duncan, a son of Gardner Duncan, a native of Glasgow, Scotland. Mr. Gardner Duncan had the following children: James, David, John, Lowrie, Mrs. Jane Rickards, Mrs. Marion Stevens, Grace and Mrs. Cecilian B. Francis. Mr. Francis was United States Consul to Victoria, under Lincoln, of whom he was a great friend. Mr. David Duncan was drowned while crossing the Sangamon river, in Illinois, in an early day. His wife died of cholera in Louisville, Kentucky. Their daughter, Henrietta Spence, resides with her sister, Mrs. Hughes, in Georgetown. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes have one child, Thomas P., a pupil of the Southwestern University. Mrs. Hughes is a lady of culture and refinement, and is a leader of the social circles of the city. While in the practice of law, Judge Hughes ranked as one of the first jurists of the State, and is distinguished as a man of integrity and public spirit. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and the former also affiliates with the Masonic order, Blue Lodge and Chapter.



**H**UGH BARTON, a prominent and highly respectable citizen of Bastrop county, Texas, has been identified with the best interests of this place since 1854. He was born in Tennessee, January 3, 1817, and at the age of twelve years moved with his parents to Alabama, where he was reared on a farm and received a common-school education. At the age of twenty-two he engaged in the mercantile business in that State, where he continued until 1854. That year he sold out and came to Texas. Upon his arrival here he located near where he now lives. He bought a tract of land, 1,000

acres, 100 acres of which were under cultivation. No buildings, however, had been erected on it, and he at once began the work of improvement. His present commodious residence he built in 1870, and he now has 400 acres under cultivation, his principal crop being corn and cotton. In 1878 he erected a store building and opened out a stock of general merchandise. For ten years he conducted a successful business, at the end of which time he sold out to other parties. He has also been connected with various other enterprises. For many years he ran a cotton gin. During the Civil war he was detailed by the Government to run the potash works near his place, and was thus engaged all through the war. Before the war he owned a large number of slaves.

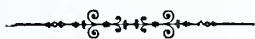
Mr. Barton is a son of Dr. Hugh and Mary (Shirley) Barton, both natives of Virginia, his grandfather, Roger Barton, having come from England to this country and settled in the Old Dominion. In connection with his professional duties Dr. Barton also carried on farming occupations. He died in Alabama about 1848, and his wife passed away the same year. Following are the names of their children, only three of whom are now living, viz.: Armstead; Roger; Elizabeth, wife of William Dixon; Arthur; Margarette, wife of John W. Rutland; Mariah, wife of E. Carloss; Hugh, the subject of this sketch; John; Clark, who died at the age of sixteen years; Louisa V., wife of L. V. Warren, a resident of Austin, Texas; and James L., who died in Alabama.

The subject of our sketch was married in Alabama, in 1871, to Miss Jennie Harris, who was born in that State, May 19, 1841; and soon after his marriage came with his bride to Texas. Of her parents, James and Martha (Mathews) Harris, we record that her



father was born in Tennessee in 1800, was a farmer all his life, and died in November, 1848; and that her mother, a native of North Carolina and of Scotch descent, is still living at the old homestead in Alabama, where she has spent over fifty years of her life. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Harris are as follows: Mary, wife of Thomas Drisdell; Clinch, deceased; William, a resident of Alabama; Eliza, wife of Robert Corrie, Alabama; Margaret, who died when young; Jennie, wife of Mr. Barton; John, of Alabama; Samuel, deceased; Henrietta, wife of T. L. Fossick, is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Barton have two children: John, a merchant of Bastrop county, Texas; and Hugh, Jr., engaged in farming in this county.

Mr. Barton is a supporter of the Democratic party. Mrs. Barton is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**W**ILLIAM OWENS, a prominent and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Bastrop county, Texas, dates his birth in Alabama, February 12, 1841. His early life was spent on the farm and his education was limited to that of the common schools. In 1857 he came with his family to Texas, and remained with his parents until the war broke out. In 1861 he enlisted in Company C, Terry's regiment of rangers, and was assigned to service in the Army of the Tennessee. He was a faithful soldier from the beginning to the end of the war, was in many hard battles and numerous skirmishes, and in all his service was never wounded or captured. Only about a dozen of the original 100 with whom he was mustered in at the beginning of hostilities returned home when the war was over.

The war over, Mr. Owens came back to Texas and engaged in farming on the shares in Washington county. In 1879 he bought 200 acres of land in Bastrop county, to the improvement of which he at once devoted his time and attention. To his original purchase he has since added and has also bought land at other places until he is now the owner of 1,500 acres, 500 acres of which are under cultivation, being rented to other parties. In 1882 he built a gin with a steam power and all the modern improvements for public ginning. And he also built a gristmill. For a number of years he has been extensively engaged in the cattle business, raising and buying and selling. For some time he also dealt in horses, buying them here and driving them to Kansas, but this he quit and now confines his stock business to cattle.

Mr. Owens is a son of Thomas and Jane (Sprowel) Owens, natives of Virginia. His parents moved from the Old Dominion to Alabama, and from there, as above stated, to Texas, settling in Limestone county, where his father died in 1858, and his mother the following year. He is the youngest of a family of ten children, whose names are as follows: William (who died before the subject of this sketch was born), Elizabeth, Bird, Hazleth, Sarah, Robert, Thomas, Jane, Martha and William. Thomas and William were in the same regiment during the war.

William Owens was married in 1882 to Miss Mary L. Carter, a daughter of Edward R. Carter, of Virginia, who came to Texas in 1850 and engaged in farming here. Mr. and Mrs. Owens have had five children, one having died young. Those living are Lucy, Janie S., Clyde and Arabel. He and his wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Fraternally, he is an I. O. O. F., and his political views are thor-



oughly in accord with Democratic principles.

For the first land Mr. Owens bought in Texas he bought \$1 per acre. This same land is now valued at \$20 an acre. He has a fine residence, good outbuildings, etc., and twelve tenant houses.



**J** M. WELLS, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Travis county, Texas, a shrewd business man and esteemed citizen, was born in this county, January 28, 1859. His parents, Wayman F. and Mary E. (Bacon) Wells, were early settlers of this county and numbered among the best people in this vicinity.

The subject of this sketch is the third living son, and spent his youth in assisting his father in the latter's stock business and in attending school. He resided on the homestead until his marriage, after which he engaged in business for himself. After the death of his father, he purchased the interest of two of the heirs to his father's estate, for which he paid \$9,500, and now owns a landed estate of 1,000 acres of as fine realty as is to be found in the country, 250 acres of which is under a high state of cultivation. He feeds about 100 head of cattle, 600 sheep and from twenty to twenty-five horses and mules annually, and is justly ranked among the most substantial citizens of his community. All this prosperity has not come to him by chance, however, but by hard and persistent labor. He inherits much of his father's business ability and good common sense, which, together with his own energetic disposition, has carried him forward to success. He is thoroughly upright in all his dealings, considerate to all, liberal to the deserving and unfortunate, and kind to every one, thus gain-

ing the universal respect and esteem of his fellow-men, whose best wishes he enjoys for his future prosperity and happiness.

January 21, 1886, he was married to Miss Margaret Dillingham, an estimable lady of his vicinity, whose father, John Dillingham, is a prominent resident of Travis county. Mr. and Mrs. Wells have one child, Eva, an active and intelligent child, who promises to become a credit to the family and the State, in which she was born.

In politics, Mr. Wells is a staunch Democrat, deeply interested in the public welfare, and active in all matters relating to local advancement, justly deserving to be classed with the representative citizens of this community.



**B** M. WALES, a successful farmer of Williamson county, was born in Fayette county, Texas, April 23, 1845, and was reared to manhood in Florence, this county. In 1864 he enlisted for service in the Confederate army, entering Company G, Baylor's Regiment of Cavalry, in the Trans-Mississippi Department. He served about eighteen months, and took part in the battles of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, and many skirmishes. Mr. Wales now has two farms, consisting of 650 acres, where he has one gin, and also owns a half interest in another. His land is worth about \$8,000. Since the close of the war, in addition to his general farming, Mr. Wales has also been largely engaged in the stock business.

In Florence, July 17, 1878, our subject was united in marriage with Sallie V. Adams, a daughter of Dr. Philip and Naney A. (Caskey) Adams. The Adams family were among the early Puritans, who settled at





Ipswich, Massachusetts, in 1622, and lived for generations near Newbury, that State. The grandparents of Mrs. Wales finally located in Shelby county, Kentucky. Dr. Philip Adams was born in Newbury, Massachusetts, in 1829, is a graduate of the Lexington (Kentucky) Medical College, and has practiced his profession many years in Florence, Texas. He was married in this city, May 6, 1856, to Nancy A. Caskey, and they have had eight children, namely: Sallie V., wife of our subject; Mary A., now Mrs. W. L. Swinney, of Florence; Lura M., wife of J. L. Paden, of Farmersville, Texas; Mattie R., wife of William Miller, of Florence; John L., also a resident of this city; and George E., Susie G. and Eleanor, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Wales have had five children: Robert, Ella Aurelia, Winia, Prosper and Hermer. Mr. Wales affiliates with the Democratic party, and his wife is a member of the Christian Church.



**J**AMES KNIGHT, Postmaster of Georgetown, was born in Danville, Vermilion county, Illinois, February 4, 1839, a son of Dr. William and Mary A. (Bangh) Knight, the former a native of Montgomery county, Ohio, and the latter of Kentucky. The father studied medicine three years with Dr. Coleman, an old physician of Dayton, Ohio, practiced medicine at Danville, Illinois, and in the fall of 1847 removed from that city to Texas, settling the first year at Brushy, Williamson county. In 1848 he came to Georgetown, where he followed his profession until death, in 1850, at the age of fifty-four years. His death was caused from exposure while practicing in Illinois, and for the benefit of health he came to Texas. He was the third

practicing physician to locate in this State. Mrs. Knight died in the fall of 1880, aged sixty-six years. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

James Knight, the eldest of six children, all living in Texas, was educated in this State. At the breaking out of the late war he was serving as District Clerk, but was then warned he could hold the office no longer. He accordingly crossed the Rio Grande river, and became one of General A. J. Hamilton's body guards. General Hamilton was made Provisional Governor by President Lincoln, and was coming to Texas to take charge of the State. The intention was to march on and take the Capitol, expecting to return home six weeks after starting, but General Banks was defeated on Red river, which necessitated a retreat. There were about 5,000 Federal troops stationed at Brownsville, Texas, who expected to take part as regulars. They retreated to New Orleans, and served out their time of one year in that State. Mr. Knight was examined with others, having had a knowledge of medicine, and passed an examination before the Medical Board of Examiners, was appointed Hospital Steward, in which capacity he served until the close of the struggle. He tried to take part in the battle of Mobile, but a New Orleans Commanding General, who was appointed after General Butler, forbade their going, telling them if captured they would be shot as spies.

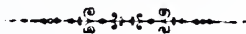
In August, 1865, Mr. Knight engaged in merchandising in Georgetown, which he continued twelve years. When he first came to Williamson county it contained only a few families. At one time they were holding court in the log court house when several buffaloes, which were being chased by dogs and horsemen, ran through the town, and



they were killed about a quarter of a mile below Georgetown. Mr. Knight in those early days saved the life of his cousin twice in one day, first by killing a large American lion, and next a large wild male hog. After closing his mercantile business our subject began driving cattle to Kansas, continuing that occupation three years, and was the second man to drive cattle from Williamson county to that State. He then farmed for a time, and next began gardening, having also raised the first strawberries in this county, six miles west of Georgetown, at North Gabriel. May 14, 1890 he was appointed Postmaster of Georgetown, and his official work has given the highest degree of satisfaction. As a citizen Mr. Knight has always interested himself in all movements that tend to improve the conditions of life, and promote the general welfare of the community. He was appointed District Clerk under General Hamilton soon after the close of the war, served until the time for the regular election, and was then elected to that office. At the following election he was defeated by only twenty-five votes, which was a remarkable race for a Union man, and, had he canvassed the county, in all probabilities would have been elected. While the canvass was in progress he had gone with a drove of cattle to Kansas.

Mr. Knight was married in December, 1861, to Miss Sarah C. Morrow, a daughter of A. W. Morrow, of Georgetown. They have seven children, namely: William W., who has served as Deputy Postmaster about eight years, both in Georgetown and Abilene; Eli, a stock raiser of Glasscock county, on the extreme frontier, married Miss Ruth McGuire, of Texas, and they have two children: Mary wife of Noble Fisk, of the same county, and they have three children; Nannie, a grown

daughter at home; Ethel, who died December 3, 1890, aged sixteen years; and Anna and Gladys attending school. Mr. and Mrs. Knight are members of the Presbyterian Church. Socially, Mr. Knight is a member of Phil Sheridan Post, No. 25, G. A. R. He takes but little interest in politics. He is one of the pioneers of the county, and, although not an old man, has lived to see wonderful changes. He is a highly esteemed citizen, whose friends are as numerous as his acquaintances, and is a true man in every sense of the word.



**J** H. KENNERLY, Postmaster at Giddings, Texas, was born in Texas, on the present site of Caldwell, then in Milan county, January 17, 1831. His parents were Everton and Susannah (Farner) Kennerly, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter of Virginia. His father came to America when eight years of age and settled in Georgia. His business was that of a farmer, and he died about 1839, at the age of forty-two. He had come with his wife to Texas in 1829, when the present State was yet a part of Mexico, and they made their first stopping above Austin. He came in Haven's colony, but, later, joined Austin's colony. The mother died at Independence, Washington county, in 1843.

The parents of the subject of this sketch had four children; the eldest, Elizabeth, married Enoch Martin, and both are now deceased, she dying February 14, 1870, having been born January 6, 1829. Our subject was the second of the family. The third was Steven, who died at the age of fourteen; and the fourth was Tacitus H., who married Mary Palmer.

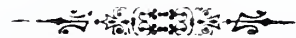


Our subject was engaged in farming all his days until he was appointed to his present position, in August, 1889, since which time he has made a good and efficient officer. He was a resident of Washington county, before the "runaway scrape" in 1836. He has seen the rough-and-tumble of Texas pioneer life, and has always hated the institution of slavery. He was an abolitionist in the days when it took courage, grit and muscle to be one, being one from principle. He never cast a vote for any president until 1868, because there was no electors for whom to vote. He has lived through five different governments in Texas, and is a pioneer of the pioneers. He took part in the late war, joining Company A, of F. M. Waul's Legion of Cavalry, and was in Van Dorn's raid around Holly Springs, in 1862; was at Vicksburg, engaged in courier duty, and was in many skirmishes, but was never severely wounded, nor was he ever taken prisoner. He was arrested several times for telling too plainly what he thought, and was made to serve on guard duty as punishment. He was at home on furlough when the war closed and has never served in official capacity until the present time.

In 1854 our subject was married to Miss Katie Williams, a daughter of Allen B. Williams, of Washington county, and they have had five children: Everton W., who married Ada Hossey, whose four children are: Dave, Willie, Tenne and Pleasant. Elizabeth, born in April, 1857, married Alexander Dunn; she died in March, 1886; her four children were: Dora, Walter, Orpha and Gimma. David married Nannie Campbell, and they have three children. Katie married W. H. Wesson, who died in May, 1889; and she has three children. J. T. is working with a bridge company in the North. The

mother, born March 12, 1833, died January 12, 1870. She was a member of the Christian Church. Our subject was married a second time; February 1, 1872, to Mrs. Hannah (Hunton) Hughes, a daughter of John Hunton, and three children have been born of this union: Thomas M.; Coke and Arthur. This Mrs. Kennerly died August 5, 1885, aged about fifty-three, and our subject was married a third time in April, 1886, to Mrs. Mattie L. Baker, a native of Georgia. She also had been married twice before, her first husband having been Jesse Massie, by whom she had three children, and her second husband was W. M. Baker, by whom she had one child, Annie.

Postmaster Kennerly is a most efficient public official, judging from his management of the postoffice at Giddings. As a citizen he has received merited esteem from his neighbors, as he has always been found firm as a rock for truth, honesty and uprightness.



**J** M. RECTOR, SR., deceased. During the '50s, in the eastern part of Travis county, where now stands the enterprising little town of Manor, there settled a number of families—the Rectors, Parsons, Towns, Hills and others—who were peculiarly fitted in point of intelligence and social standing to give tone and polish to the sturdy but rather unpolished elements that had preceded them. It is not the desire to in any way detract from the high character of the early settlers; but the time and thought of the early Texan was too fully occupied with disciplining the Comanche and Mexican to admit of much in the line of literary culture or the display of the social amenities of life. Judge Rector, as he was familiarly





known, and his family, constituted an important factor in the community aforesaid, and still continue to exert an influence for good, although the head of the family has passed the borders of the dark river

The Rectors are a family of German descent, emigrating to this country in early colonial days. For generations they lived in Virginia, and were connected in state-craft and education with the best families of the Old Dominion. The distinguished trait of the family is its intellectuality, a larger proportion of the males being honored members of the different professions. The father of our deceased subject, Benjamin Rector, moved to Sevier county, Tennessee, thence to Marshall county, Alabama, and in 1847, together with a large company of his children and relations to Bastrop county, where he died. During his lifetime he was a prominent member of each community in which he lived, passing much of his time in offices of public trust. He reared a large family, all of whom were more or less prominent in later Texas development

Judge T. M. Rector was born in Sevierville, Sevier county, Tennessee, November 14, 1801. He studied law with Judge Williams, of Knoxville, Tennessee, and at twenty-one was admitted to the bar. He soon hung out his shingle in Bellefonte, the county seat of Jackson county, Alabama, and was not long in establishing a reputation as an expounder of the law, equaled by few in north Alabama, where he practiced before all the courts of the State. Recognizing his merit, the people of Jackson county put him in as their County Judge, and for a number of years he served them in that capacity.

In 1853, he followed his relatives to Texas, being the last of the family to leave old Alabama. As mentioned before, he settled in

the eastern part of Travis county, where, in his vocation as a tiller of the soil, he achieved the same degree of success he attained as a lawyer. So well was he pleased with husbandry, he never again re-entered the court room as a lawyer, although he continued to have an interest in everything pertaining to his profession.

Judge Rector died February 19, 1892, at the advanced age of ninety years. He retained his energies, both mental and physical, to the very last, dying with an attack of la grippe superinduced by a too free exposure of himself in an inclement spell of weather

In religious faith he was an Episcopalian and an honored member of the Masonic fraternity, Royal Arch degree. Of him, a friend who was intimately acquainted with him in life, says :

"Judge Rector was twice married; first to a Miss Wilson, of Jackson county, Alabama, who lived but a few months, dying without issue. About 1831 he married in the same county a widow, Mrs. Lucy A. Lancaster, *nee* Hudson, daughter of Captain John Hudson, who went from Virginia to Alabama. This lady had two children by her former husband: Ann, deceased, and John N., now a resident of Lockhart, Texas. To their marriage were born five children: Kate E., living at the old homestead, the wife of John W. Brown; F. B., who died in infancy; T. M. Jr., a prosperous farmer, near Manor; Lucy J., an invalid lady living with her sister, Mrs. Brown; and Landonia M., who married John H. Washington, of Manor, and is now deceased."

A friend says: "T. M. Rector, Sr., took a great interest in the education of the young. One of his last acts before leaving Alabama was to assist in building a Masonic hall and female seminary, which was completed in



1853. He also took part in the organization of Parsons' Lodge, No. 222, at Manor, Texas, of which he was Master for many years."

Such is an epitome of the life of one of Travis county's most prominent and highly respected citizens.



**JOHN ISRAELSON.**—Among the Swedish pioneers of Williamson county none is more worthy of mention in this connection than John Israelson, who has resided here since 1859. He was born in Sweden, March 10, 1833, and was reared to the life of a farmer, becoming accustomed to the hard labor of tilling the soil. His father, Israel Abramson, was a small farmer, and under his careful management the earth yielded him and his family support. He married Anna Stina, and they reared a family of thirteen children, only three of whom are now living: John is the subject of this notice; Anna married August Anderson; and Adla is the wife of Carl Anderson.

The successes of his countrymen in America proved a temptation not to be resisted, and he finally set sail at Gottenberg for Boston. After many weeks on the deep, land was reached, and without delay he proceeded to New York, going thence to Texas. He first went to Austin, and finally to Williamson county, where he found employment with John Palm, with whom he remained ten months. He next worked for Mr. Swenson for one year. By this time his experience and observation had taught him that it was better to farm for one's self than to hire one's labor to another. Accordingly he rented land, but his operations were interrupted by the breaking out of the civil war. During

this period he did freighting from Mexico to San Antonio, and when at last peace was declared he took charge of a herd of sheep for a Mr. Forsythe. At the expiration of three months he went to Mexico, where he herded sheep and tramped through the country for a period of two and a half years. While this occupation was not particularly profitable from a financial standpoint, it was rich in varied experience, and quite worth the time thus spent.

Coming back to Palm valley, he engaged in driving cattle for the Palm brothers, making trips to Kansas and other distant points. At the end of another year he determined to abandon his roving life and devote himself to some fixed occupation. He turned his attention to farming, and finally invested his means in land, purchasing 103 acres. He has made most admirable improvements, and has one of the most desirable homes in the county. He has sixty acres under good cultivation, and in addition rents some land. Profits come slowly yet surely, and wise investments are sure to bring a competency.

Mr. Israelson was united in marriage in the autumn of 1870 to Miss Mary Kngland, one of his countrywomen; they have had born to them seven children: Anna, wife of Andrew Johnson; Adla, Gustave, Hannah, Nora, Esther, and one that died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Israelson are supporters of the Lutheran Church and most exemplary members of the community in which they live.



**IRVIN A. McFADIN**, deceased, was born in January, 1842, in Jefferson county, Texas, being the third son of David H. and Jerusha (Dyches) McFadin. He was but four years old when his parents re-



inoved to Williamson county, and his youth was passed on the ranch of his father, who was quite extensively engaged in the stock business. His early education was secured in the old-time subscription schools, and upon attaining mature years he settled upon a portion of the old homestead, and continued in the farming and stock raising business in company with his father. He was a man of rare business acumen and financial shrewdness, amassing a large fortune in the stock business, and that within an almost incredibly brief time.

He was married in 1863, to Miss Elizabeth N. Moore, a native of Mississippi, and a daughter of R. W. Moore, who came to Texas about the year 1858 and settled in Milan county, where he passed the remainder of his life. Mr. and Mrs. McFadin became the parents of four children: David Guy; Dean; Mary Ellen, who became the wife of O. M. Breeden; and Ira.

Mr. McFadin, like his father, was independent in his political views. He was a member of the Christian Church, as is also his widow.

Mr. McFadin passed to his reward June 11, 1888, and his devoted wife is still living at the age of forty-seven years.



**M**AJOR T. V. COUPLAND, deceased, was born in Jefferson county, Alabama, October 16, 1836. His father was Hugh Coupland, a nephew of Governor A. J. and ex-Senator Morgan C. Hamilton, both noted Texas characters. Mr. Coupland came to Texas a few years before the Civil war and resided in Austin. He was Deputy Sheriff of Travis county, under Sheriff J. W. Blackburn, for a number of

years. At the breaking out of the war he and Jack Hamilton, John J. Haines and others, not desiring to participate in open rebellion against the flag of the Union, took refuge in Mexico and made their way to the Union lines at New Orleans. They offered their service in defense of the Union, were accepted, and Mr. Coupland was commissioned Major of the First Texas Cavalry. Governor E. J. Davis was the commanding General, Colonel Haines being an officer in the same command. Major Coupland was in active service exclusively in the Western Department. He marched from New Orleans to San Antonio, and was there mustered out in the summer of 1865.

After his discharge from the service Major Coupland returned to New Orleans, where, December 21, 1865, he was married. He continued his residence in that city eighteen years, or until 1883. For a number of years he was Collector of the port of New Orleans. He was then appointed Deputy Clerk of the United States Circuit Court, and served in that capacity until 1883, when he came to Texas and took charge of that portion of an estate bequeathed to him by Morgan C. Hamilton. He was engaged in farming and ranching on Brushy creek, and many hundred cattle bore his familiar brand. Ill health forced him to dispose of his stock interest, but he gave his attention to his farm until the time of his death, which occurred January 3, 1890. Mr. Coupland was a gentleman of fine character, pleasant address and most congenial manner. He made friends wherever he lived. The death of no man in the county has caused a more general and deep-seated regret than that of Major Coupland. He was a Mason and a member of Linwood Lodge, New Orleans. He took no interest in politics after coming to Texas, but while





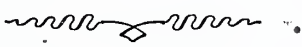
in New Orleans he was an active and energetic supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and up to the time of his death was true to his convictions. He married Fannie, daughter of Captain Wardwell, and Ann (Cunningham) Flanders.

Captain Flanders was an old sea captain, and was one of the early settlers of New Orleans. He was born in New Hampshire, February 16, 1811, just before the opening of our second war with England. His father, Joseph Flanders, was a sturdy patriot and participated in many battles of the American Revolution. One day while he was absent from home the Indians raided the country, devastating homes and murdering women and children, but his brave wife made her escape with her children and reached Salisbury a few days later. Captain Flanders' ancestry in America dates back to 1650. When a lad the Captain, having a desire to go to sea, was placed under a sea captain for training, and for a number of years was on a whaling vessel. In 1826 he established his home in New Orleans, and twelve years later he married. When the Mexican war was in progress Captain Flanders commanded a vessel engaged in transporting troops to the Mexican coast. He was a popular officer. When the California gold fever broke out his ship was crowded with seekers of the precious metal, bound for the new El Dorado. It would require many volumes to detail the Captain's adventures at sea, the hardships he endured and the privations he encountered while in a convoy of vessels near one of a group of the South Pacific islands. He witnessed the stranding of a vessel and the terrible atrocities perpetrated upon the defenseless men. He spent one winter in Behring sea. During the Civil war he remained in New Orleans, taking no active part in the

conflict; but, being the son of a Revolutionary soldier, his heart was full of love for the Union and his sympathies unmistakably with the Federal army. After the war he was appointed surveyor of the port. Then, for thirteen years, he was inspector of hulls, being peculiarly fitted for that position because of his familiarity with all classes of vessels. Benjamin F. Flanders, brother of the Captain, was once Military Governor of Louisiana and for many years a chief in the United States Treasury Department at New Orleans. Captain Flanders and his wife had children as follows: Relief, the wife of F. A. Woolfley; Fannie; Florence A., now Mrs. D. J. Goss; Clement C., cashier of the Metropolitan Bank of New Orleans; Will W., engaged in the lumber business at Lake Charles, Louisiana; and twelve children, deceased.

The only child of Major and Mrs. Coupland is Frank Hamilton Coupland, now residing with his mother and engaged in farming. He was born in New Orleans, December 27, 1866, and was married November 8, 1888, to Miss Sophia M. Heilhecker. They have two little daughters: Fannie R., born January 10, 1890, and Gladys S., July 8, 1892.

On Mrs. Coupland's farm was fought one of the most celebrated battles known in Texas history,—that of Battle Creek,—in which Jake Burleson, a brother of General Edward Burleson, was killed.

 **G** H. COFFIELD.—The claim is sometimes made by the citizens of Rockdale, and it seems to be well founded in fact, that theirs is a town of young men. A hasty glance at the personnel of the business men of the place certainly reveals the fact that very few of them are men of advanced age, while a large number are



actually as yet young in years. Young blood counts for a great deal in the affairs of this life, and the youthful energy and enthusiasm that have been infused into the currents of traffic and development in the little town of Rockdale during the twenty years of its existence, have told wonderfully in its history.

C. H. Coffield is now but little past his forty-fifth year, and of his life eighteen years have been spent in Rockdale. He is one who has had much to do with the making of its history, and one whose name should receive mention in a review of its growth and development.

Mr. Coffield's life, like the lives of most of the successful business men of this place, has very little in it of the romantic or unusual. Romantic careers are not, as a rule, successful ones from a business standpoint.

Born in Martin county, North Carolina, in 1847, he was brought by his parents; in 1859, to this State and for two years resided on a farm, where his time was divided between his duties as a farm hand and his attendance at the then well known school of Soule University, at Chapel Hill. He was in this school at the time of the breaking out of the Civil war; and, with the ardor of youth, ran away from the institution and entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Border's regiment, composed of cadets and youths like himself, whose chief recommendation as soldiers was their ardor for the cause which they had espoused, and the fact that Texas having a vast stretch of Gulf coast to be defended, was willing to accept boy soldiers for this service. From the date of his enlistment until the close of hostilities between the two sections, young Coffield carried a musket, discharging his duties acceptably in field and camp, and having had the good fortune to escape wounds and imprisonment, laid down

his arms at the general armistice, happy in the thought that he had borne himself as became a true Southern boy.

He returned home and went to work for wages driving cattle and doing whatever else of honest labor that came to hand, being variously engaged for ten years after the close of the war, when, in August, 1875, he took up his residence in Rockdale. His first employment there was as bookkeeper in a drug store, which occupation he followed for three or four years. He then formed a partnership with Hugh L. Witcher under the firm name of Witcher & Coffield, and engaged in business for himself. There are several mercantile establishments in Rockdale that seem to an outside person marvels of growth when told of their history, and their enterprise noted is not the least of this number. From a small line of common hardware and cheap farming implements with which it began fifteen years ago, it has come to embrace a stock carrying all lines of hardware, implements, vehicles of one kind and another, harness and saddles, furniture and so on, representing an annual business of \$90,000.

Mr. Coffield has given this business close attention since it was started and has helped to build it up to what it is. In January, 1890, associated with other gentlemen of Rockdale, he organized the First National Bank of that place, and he was elected president, which position he has since held. He is also a stockholder in the Rockdale Improvement Company, owners and operators of the water works and electric-light plant; in the Cotton Oil Mill, the Cotton Platform Company, the coal mines and other representative enterprises, standing ready at all times to contribute of his means to anything looking to the development of his town and county.



For three or four years past he has given particular attention to the real-estate interest of Rockdale and vicinity, and has done a great deal toward calling attention to the advantages of this locality for farming, stock-raising, fruit-growing, mining, manufacturing, etc.

Mr. Coffield is one of those men who keeps things about him moving, not being content to plod along and make a living, but wishing to see everybody at something and everybody doing well, and particularly desirous of seeing his own town and county develop to their full capacity, their waste places filled with happy homes and their thoroughfares and markets crowded with trade. To this end he has bent his energies since he began four years ago to direct attention to the possibilities of this section for capitalists and homeseekers, and he is enjoying the satisfaction now of seeing his efforts crowned with at least partial success. His epitomizing of the claims of Rockdale and vicinity are so clear and succinct that it will bear repetition. He says: "Rockdale is the best town of 2,000 people in Texas; it has railroad connection

North, South, East and West; \$1,000,000 taxable values; low rate of taxation; Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Christian and Catholic churches; best free school in the State; good banking facilities; efficient system of water works and electric lights; ample hotel accommodations; brick kiln making 2,000,000 brick of superior quality annually; cheap lumber; an unsurpassed fruit, vegetable and melon district; average cotton crop, one-half bale to the acre; best weekly newspaper in the State; and inexhaustible mines of lignite coal."

Mr. Coffield has been too busy in the past fifteen or twenty years to develop his claims as a politician. He has held but few offices—none except local positions. He is a Democrat in faith and in works when there is need of his working for the success of his party. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Honor.

On September 14, 1871, he married, at Salado, in Bell county, Miss Mary E. Bonner, daughter of J. C. Bonner, of that place, an old Texan whose residence in this State dates from 1851.

















